

BAY AREA REPORTER

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

Baths Close, Reopen in Hours Gay Lawyers, Club Owners Defy City Order

Refrains from Using
Medical Quarantine Power;
Declares 'Nuisance' Instead

by Brian Jones

Public Health Director Dr. Mervyn Silverman on Tuesday told 14 bathhouses, sex clubs, and bookstores to close or else. Within four hours of closing, some of the owners — advised by a group of Gay civil rights attorneys — challenged, "or else what?"

That was the question of the day. The power behind Silverman's order was very much in doubt. Advised that the order was invalid and unconstitutional, many of the closed clubs reopened just four or five hours after being served with Silverman's order.

The surprises of the past 48 hours surrounded what Silverman had not done. Everyone expected him to order the baths closed. But the way he went about trying to do so — and the unanswered challenge on the baths owners' defiance — raised questions whether Silverman would be able to put force behind his effort.

Many of the bathhouse and sex club owners served with the order Tuesday were under the impression it was an order of quarantine, and that failure to comply would lead to arrest. They had an immediate reason to think so. Silverman dispatched armed, uniformed police officers with health officials to serve the notices.

But Silverman, in fact, did not issue a medical quarantine. Instead, he issued an order "To Abate A Public Nuisance." The law under which such orders are issued is local, not state, and considerably less powerful than quarantine.

Parts of the ordinance are

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Merv Silverman (Photo: Rink)



Armed police officers guarded the health department Tuesday (above) as closure order was displayed at Jaguar Books (l.) (Photo: Rink)

A COMPLETE LOOK AT BATHS CLOSURE

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Gay doctors say closure is 'not medically justified' p. 4

Two attorneys explore the legal issues involved in closing the baths p. 5

Federal Study Disputes Bathhouse-AIDS Link

Locally Based Research Says Baths Not A Risk Factor

by Brian Jones

Gay civil rights attorneys who are fighting the city's order to close the baths are using a federal AIDS study as evidence. The San Francisco-based study, being conducted at the federal Centers for Disease Control, examines precisely the question in dispute: whether patrons of bathhouses are at special risk for AIDS.

With two-thirds of the study complete, the surprising answer is that there is no statistical correlation between bathhouse attendance and risk for AIDS. In fact, the study-in-progress indicates a reverse correlation.

Among men with five or more sex contacts per month, those who meet most or all of their partners in bathhouses appear less likely to be at risk for AIDS than other men with multiple

sex contacts.

All multiple-sex contact behavior carries high risk for AIDS, the study indicates. Men in the study who reported five or more sex contacts per month

were three times as likely to have AIDS as those who averaged less than one contact per month.

But, among those high-contact men, the bathhouse set-

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Quentin Kopp (Photo: Rink)

Quentin Kopp feels misunderstood as many Gays oppose him this campaign season. George Mendenhall talks to Kopp p. 13

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The death of a 19-year-old San Franciscan prompts attempts to deny his last wishes by a long-estranged family and an upper Market Street funeral home p. 10

Can Gay parents settle child-raising issues in family court? An Oakland judge says 'yes' in the case of Lesbian co-parents. Charlie Linebarger explains p. 14

The murder of a 15-year-old last month has other teens on Polk Street worried. Meanwhile, police and Polk area Gays are seeking to improve safety — and relations with each other. Allen White reports p. 16

Opening night jitters approach for Theatre Rhinoceros' eighth season. Bernard Spunberg goes backstage to explore the creation of Gay heritage on stage p. 22



The Way It Is. Dr. Mervyn Silverman, Tuesday, issuing the order to close the baths. This time, there were no Gay leaders behind him — just the press in front. (Photo: Rink)

Lawyers, Owners Defy City Order

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referred to in common parlance as "Red Light Abatement" because the ordinance is frequently used in attempts to shut down brothels.

Civil rights attorneys awaiting Silverman's order were surprised — and pleased — by the unexpected form it took. Their clients could defy the order without arrest, and to enforce it, Silverman would have to go into court and prove his case.

They had expected that it would be themselves, not Silverman, who would have to go into court, in order to challenge his action. By the form of action Silverman took, he put himself in the position of having to carry the burden of proof in court should the bathhouse owners fail to comply.

At his press conference Tues-

day, Silverman said he had "the full cooperation" of the City Attorney's office in issuing the order, and said he would take whatever action necessary to push enforcement through court action.

Against that statement, the silence Wednesday from City Hall and the Health Department was notable.

Silverman relied on strong words in an attempt to garner public support for his action. He called bathhouse operators "those who profit from death" and said, "This isn't Gay lib going on in these facilities."

His strongest attack came in answer to a question as to whether he expected the order to be challenged, and if so, if he expected a court order to support his order.

"Not being a lawyer, I sup-

pose anything can happen," Silverman said. "That's still a possibility. We still let criminals walk out of courtrooms and we still let criminals walk out of jail after they have murdered people, in very short times."

Silverman was interrupted by a reporter who asked, "Are you calling the bathhouse owners criminals and murderers, Dr. Silverman?"

Silverman responded, "That wasn't the statement I was making, you can certainly draw your own conclusion. I would say that anybody who, in the face of this, continues to encourage activity which very likely will kill the people from whom they profit, I won't use that term, but I think you can place any term you want on it."

Silverman said he had sent inspectors into bathhouses, sex

Silverman's Statement

Today I have ordered the closure of 14 commercial establishments which promote and profit from the spread of AIDS — a sexually transmitted fatal disease. These businesses have been inspected on a number of occasions, and demonstrate a blatant disregard for the health of their patrons and of the community.

We now have solid evidence that AIDS is a sexually transmitted viral disease — often spread by people who are unaware that they are carrying the virus. Antibodies to this virus have been found in at least 40 to 50 percent of the Gay male population studied in San Francisco. We know that the more sexual activity involving exchange of body fluids, the greater the risk of contracting AIDS.

From the beginning of this epidemic, we established a prevention program which placed major emphasis on education designed to inform the Gay community about the nature of this disease and how it can be prevented. This became part of an overall approach by San Francisco that is serving as the model AIDS program for the rest of the country. Today's action is one part of this comprehensive program.

The places that I have ordered closed today have continued in the face of this epidemic to provide an environment that encourages and facilitates the multiple unsafe sexual contacts, which are an important factor in the spread of this deadly disease.

When activities are proven to be dangerous to the public and continue to take place in commercial settings, the Health Department has a duty to intercede and halt the operation of such businesses.

Make no mistake about it. These 14 establishments are not fostering Gay liberation. They are fostering disease and death. ■

Dr. Mervyn F. Silverman

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Federal AIDS Study

(Continued from page 1)

ting actually appeared to present less risk. Those in the high-contact group who reported most or all of their contacts in bathhouses had no more likelihood of contracting AIDS than high-contact men who did not go to bathhouses at all.

In fact, the mostly bathhouse oriented group appeared to be at somewhat less risk than those who went to bathhouses occasionally, but met many sex partners elsewhere.

At his press conference Tuesday, Silverman was asked by the *Bay Area Reporter* about the study. He responded, "There was a letter that came from the CDC which has now been followed up by another letter from the same individual saying the facts on which he based his conclusions were incorrect . . . I'll make both of those available. I'm not trying to hide anything."

Silverman's remarks gave the impression the CDC communication was a letter from an individual — which it was — but nothing more. While technically true, the communication was more significant than Silverman indicated.

The letter discussed the findings so far of an official CDC study under the coordination of Dr. William W. Darrow, research sociologist for the Bureau of AIDS Activity, federal Centers for Disease Control.

At the time Darrow reported initial findings of the San Francisco bathhouse and risk study, late in August, results were tabulated on 254 respondents. In



James Curran

all, it is hoped that more than 500 men will be counted and interviewed in the study.

Silverman repeated his statement later in the day that the original results of the CDC study had been contradicted by research done since late August. That statement was denied by the CDC researcher himself.

Dr. William Darrow was telephoned in Atlanta Tuesday afternoon and gave a statement to the Gay civil rights lawyers fighting the bathhouse closure. Darrow said later research on the bathhouse risk study further confirms the earlier released results — and show no correlation between bathhouses and AIDS risk among high-risk men.

The *Bay Area Reporter* late Tuesday interviewed Dr. Dean Echenberg, chief of the bureau of communicable diseases in the city health department, and Silverman's deputy on the AIDS issue. Echenberg — who said he

has a thorough knowledge of the CDC study and talks with Darrow frequently — questioned the study, but did not mention a "follow-up letter" from Darrow which disavowed it.

Instead, Echenberg said a parallel and related study by Dr. Andrew Moss is examining the same issues, but using a "neighborhood group" for the study control group in the research. In other words, the Moss study compares bathhouse risk of high-contact men with controls selected from Gay neighborhoods. The control group in Darrow's study were selected from City Clinic and so, presumably, are all in the higher-risk categories.

Echenberg predicted Moss' study would support the bathhouse-AIDS risk link. But medical authorities working against bathhouse closure were preparing to challenge the methodology of the Moss approach. It was not valid, they argued, to compare lower-risk neighborhood controls to higher-risk subjects who attend bathhouses — because, then, two variables are involved, not just one.

The nexus of the debate escalated into levels of statistical correlations and scientific formulas too complex for any but the most technically trained to understand. But it seemed clear the CDC study would become a key piece of evidence in the court debate on the bathhouses.

And the question may well become, which side can explain the statistics most convincingly to a judge.

B. Jones

The Order to Close

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the order sent by the Director of Public Health to 14 bathhouses, sex clubs, bookstores and porn theaters issued the morning of Tuesday, Oct. 9.

WHEREAS the Director of Public Health has determined that the incidence of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in San Francisco has reached epidemic proportions with the highest per capita incidence anywhere in the United States; and

WHEREAS AIDS is a fatal disease with no known cure; and WHEREAS the Director of Public Health has determined that the operation of the above designated business contributed to the spread of the virus that causes AIDS;

ACCORDINGLY, the Director of Public Health has determined that the continued operation of the above designated business constitutes a hazard and menace to the public health;

THEN by virtue of the power yielded in him by the law of the State of California, the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco,

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO HEREBY ORDERS THE ABOVE DESIGNATED BUSINESS TO CLOSE NO LATER THAN 12:00 O'CLOCK NOON, OCTOBER 9, 1984.

Mervyn F. Silverman, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Health
City and County of San Francisco

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161 6th St.	4056 18th St.
Boot Camp	S.F. Health Club
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201 8th St.	220 Jones St.
Club San Francisco	The Slot
330 Ritch St.	979 Folsom St.
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947 Folsom St.	3244 21st St.

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Gay Doctors Say Closure 'Not Medically Justified'

Accuse Silverman of Withholding CDC Study Which Shows No AIDS-Bathhouse Link

ED. NOTE: The following is an excerpted text of an Oct. 8 letter to Dr. Mervyn Silverman.

Dear Dr. Silverman:

The Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR) is the organization of 300 Gay and Lesbian physicians in the San Francisco Bay Area . . . we publicly now reaffirm and expand upon our official position taken April 2, 1984, with regard to bathhouse and sex club closure . . .

Implicit in this statement are three important observations:

- Closure of bathhouses will not statistically decrease the risks of acquiring the disease;
- Closure of bathhouses gives license for and is likely to cause unprecedented discrimination and violence against Gay and Lesbian individuals and the community; and
- Closure of bathhouses will harm the public health objective.

We have now obtained the information from Dr. William Darrow of the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta (CDC) which you, Dr. Silverman, have had since August. As you know, this study indicates that the number of partners met in sex clubs and bathhouses DOES NOT CORRELATE with increased risk of developing antibodies to LAV (the putative AIDS virus) or acquiring AIDS.

On the other hand, it is most reasonable to deduce from the study and other recent research that five or more sex partners a month, met in any location — including bars, parks, on the street, or at private parties — and with the sexual encounter occurring in any location — including one's home — causes a statistically significant increase in the risk. To date, there exists no clear or definitive medical data relating particular sites to the development of the disease or indicating which practices are most effective for disease transmission.

It logically follows that education of the entire community is the most effective way of ensuring the Gay community's public health. Closure of the bathhouses would cause the loss of a very effective forum for the educational efforts which are already in progress. The data in terms of startling and dramatic decreases in rectal gonorrhea rates seem to validate the appropriateness of those efforts . . .

The drive for intimate association is so fundamental that it is clear that persons who have the propensity to engage in what is considered high risk sexual con-

tact will do so in some location. If some of those people presently attend bathhouses, they not only have educational materials thrust upon them, but they are also in an environment which has lavatory facilities for personal hygiene which many other locations lack. It is our objective not simply to move the conduct but, rather, to educate the actors.

We are concerned about inappropriate and unjustified government intervention for many reasons, including:

- Since there is no statistical correlation between the disease and bathhouses, closure is not medically justifiable. Medical decisions must be based upon data, not political or other non-medical factors. Ignoring the accurate data and keeping most Gay doctors out of the decision-making process does not lend integrity to decisions in this area.
- Focusing on the bathhouses is illogical for several reasons:

(1) Closure would have little, if any, impact on changing habits because such a small percentage of the community attends those facilities, because most of those people who do attend

those facilities have already been educated, and because closure would simply prompt people to change the location of their sexual contacts.

(2) The message to government that closure of bathhouses is "finally doing something effective" is wrong and likely to shift government away from what really needs to be promoted, namely, continued funding for medical research and community education.

(3) The message to the community would be equally erroneous, that staying away from bathhouses is the way to fight the disease; i.e. focusing on location rather than on conduct.

(4) The bathhouses have been one of the primary sources of education to the community.

• The message to the general public of government intervention in the intimate association of Gay males is that this minority is dangerous and should be the object of reproach and censure, all of which leads to discrimination and, too often these days, as we have all read in the press, instances of violence. Especially when the medical data does not support such in-



Against Closure. Many Gay community leaders opposed closure at Tuesday afternoon press conference at AIDS Foundation. Dr. Seth Charney speaks for Gay doctors group. (Photo: Rink)

tervention, the fact that this action would give governments and individuals across the country a medical rationale to block and invade the civil rights worked for in the last decades, is particularly unfortunate.

• Not the least of our concerns is that the power of the health director not be undermined by the wrongful and unsupported use of his emergency powers. Use of these powers without supporting data, without sufficient input, in contradiction to existing medical information, and without circumspect consideration of all consequences, creates a dangerous precedent.

We remain convinced that the only effective way to decrease the risk of acquiring AIDS in the absence of effective biologic prevention, is via broad-based community-centered educational efforts promoting good health habits. Historically, legislating health behaviors has repeatedly failed.

Modern standards of medical decision-making require that such decisions be based on sci-

entific data. The fact that the medical community of experts in the area of AIDS does not have a uniform voice with regard to action on this issue should mandate caution on the part of those entrusted with the public welfare. It is significant that the closure action has been rejected by the health directors of other major cities.

BAPHR stands committed to working within the Gay and Lesbian community to decrease the risks of acquiring AIDS. We also stand committed to the principles of our system of government and to the constitutional and civil rights of our community and all individuals in this country.

It is difficult enough for our community to endure the disease. Must it also be called upon to respond to unjustified attacks on its civil rights? ■

AIDS Screening At Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic

The Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic is now offering free AIDS screenings at the Medical Section, 558 Clayton (at Haight). The 17-year-old clinic was selected by the San Francisco Department of Public Health to do three levels of AIDS screenings.

According to Clinic Director, George Dykstra, "A third of our patients identify themselves as Gay or bisexual men. Many are concerned about AIDS. Some simply want to talk to a physician, others want to go a step further and have laboratory tests done. That's why we're here."

According to Director Dykstra, "In the past several months, the number of Comprehensive Examinations the clinic has done has tripled. Our staff is aware of how difficult it is for many men to make an appointment, and mention their concern about AIDS. We see this every day."

Anyone wanting to call the Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic for an appointment and free screening examination — at Risk, Intermediate, or Comprehensive — should call 431-1714 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic is located at 558 Clayton Street at Haight, three blocks from Golden Gate Park. ■

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Legal Implications Of Closing Bathhouses

by Thomas Steele and Meriel Burtle

Proponents of closing the bathhouses sometimes say, "Well, even if it turns out that the incidence of AIDS is not reduced after the bathhouses are shut down, what do we have to lose?" The answer is a great deal.

No one seriously suggests that the bathhouse premises themselves are the source of AIDS. The premises themselves are not infected, as is usually the case when a building is quarantined by the Health Department. No one suggests that the AIDS virus is in the walls or the bedding. Instead, it is the conduct of people who go to the baths which is targeted by these closure proposals as the alleged genesis of the disease.

And what conduct is that? It is intimate sexual activity between consenting adults. Closure of the bathhouses is, we must all agree, simply a method of controlling and regulating consensual sexual relations between gay men.

Indeed, it is interesting to note that the Health Department's proposed bathhouse regulations required removal of the doors to private rooms, for the express purpose of allowing inspectors to peer inside and then report any unauthorized sexual contacts.

Thus, proposed regulations go beyond common areas and attempt to reach into previously closed and private rooms and to regulate the conduct inside.

The legal implications of a "quarantine" of the bathhouses

are far-reaching and frightening. In very important ways, the legal struggle for gay rights has been a struggle to secure recognition of the constitutional right to "privacy" for gay people.

"Privacy" in this sense means the right to make certain fundamental personal decisions without interference from the government. For gay people, this has meant establishing a constitutional right to relate to each other intimately and sexually, with all the important conditions and circumstances which that basic decision implies.

Government interference with such fundamental rights can only be justified, as a legal matter, when there is a compelling need which absolutely requires the regulation, and permits no other possible solution.

In addition, the proposed regulation must be as narrow as possible and can't be overbroad to any extent.

These are demanding legal tests. They are deliberately made demanding because historically many important interests have been put forward as a justification for limiting constitutional rights — national security, for example.

Broad and repressive laws have been enacted to promote these interests and courts have invalidated those laws where not absolutely necessary and narrowly drawn to serve a compelling governmental purpose.

The closure of bathhouses as an AIDS prevention mechanism

simply doesn't meet these legal tests. It is not a narrowly drawn measure because it prevents bathhouse contacts between persons who do not have AIDS and cannot transmit the disease.

The closure is not "necessary" in the legal sense because many alternative measures exist while closure of one location may simply cause the conduct to move elsewhere.

The only conceivable means by which to legally justify bathhouse closure is to deny that gay people's intimate sexual relations are constitutionally protected — or to accord them some lesser degree of constitutional protection. Then the demanding standards for laws affecting constitutional rights do not come into play, and the simple fact that closure *may* be useful to assist in some cases in avoiding the transmission of AIDS is a sufficient justification.

But once we agree to such a principle, where and how do we stop the relentless and logical progression from the prohibition of consensual sexual activity in one location, to the prevention of such activity in all locations?

From a constitutional and common sense point of view, if we strip away the privacy rights which protect the decision to relate intimately to a person of the same gender in a bathhouse cubicle, then there are few obstacles to the further regulation of such relations in hotel rooms or homes.

The existence of a constitutional right to privacy for gay people presently hangs in the balance. Half the states have decriminalized sodomy, while half still have criminal laws against sodomy.

A few courts have held that the decision to have a gay relationship is entitled to constitutional protection, but the U.S. Supreme Court hasn't yet decided the issue and could go either way.

We have, as a community, fought many long years to protect and fortify the right to privacy. This is not the time to undermine or abandon our civil rights in the name of disease control.

The potential consequence is the promotion of a drive to recriminalize sodomy (oral and anal sex) in this and other states. Recently this very argument was advanced in a brief lodged with a Federal Circuit Court. The brief argued that the AIDS epidemic should cause the court to reject the privacy rights

asserted by the gay plaintiffs in that case.

The time to mobilize is now. Continuing and expanded community education aimed at encouraging individuals to make informed choices in favor of "safe sex" is the appropriate and most effective answer until the medical profession solves the enigma of AIDS.

Our community must avoid interim solutions which promise to have far-reaching negative side effects to the civil rights of the gay and lesbian population throughout the country. Let us demonstrate to the nation, and more importantly to ourselves, that we are fully capable of responding intelligently and with unity to this challenge. ■

Volunteers Sought for Conflict Panels

Community Boards, the city's prize-winning conflict resolution program, is training volunteers to solve neighborhood disputes. The training session starts Oct. 13 and teaches these valuable skills: communication, conflict resolution, and the ability to empathize with people of varied interests and backgrounds.

The Community Board process is simple but effective. The people with a dispute tell their stories to a Community Board panel of trained neighbors. By working with the panel to explore difficulties and uncover mutual interests, most disputants reach a lasting agreement.

The training session is offered free to residents of Community

Board neighborhoods who agree to volunteer for a year. The 26-hour session is given on two Saturdays and four evenings to accommodate working people. If you are interested, check below to find the introductory session in your area, or call 552-1250 for more information.

- Alamo Square, Ashbury Terrace, Buena Vista, Corona Heights, Duboce Triangle, Fillmore, Haight-Ashbury, Hayes Valley, Inner Sunset and the Western Addition: Tuesday, Sept. 25, 11 p.m., repeated at 7 p.m., 890 Hayes Street at Fillmore, 864-6230, 864-4890.
- Castro, Eureka Valley, and Noe Valley: Tuesday, Oct. 9, 7:30 p.m.; call 821-2470 for location.
- Mission: Thursday, Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m.; call 821-2467 for location. ■

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VOL. XIV NO. 41 OCTOBER 11, 1984

NEXT ISSUE OUT: OCTOBER 18

NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 12

VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Doing His Part

And so the deed is done, the die is cast, the order to smite down those who would sow "death and destruction" — to use Merv Silverman's words — has come forth from 101 Grove. That temple of Public Health has become a Mount of Discipline from which the Prophet Mervyn, press release like tablets in hand, has descended to lay down the law to us.

You should have heard Dr. Silverman on Tuesday. Jerry Falwell has never sounded more righteous, Anita Bryant never more indignant, Senator H. L. Richardson more offended than did Dr. Mervyn Silverman. With the stern certainty of a man who will save us from ourselves, he let loose his moral judgment — thinly, but unsuccessfully, disguised as a medical decision — to close the baths in San Francisco.

As Dianne has played the role of matriarch, railing against the sins of her children, so has Mervyn now donned the mantle of patriarch. His order issued Tuesday is the paddle. Mommy is calling the shots and Daddy is doing the dirty work. We are supposed to sit still for the paddling because, in the long run, it will be good for us.

The English language fails in supplying words sufficient to describe the scorn Mayor Dianne Feinstein and Health Director Mervyn Silverman have earned for themselves; or, for that matter, the scorn they have demonstrated toward the people of our community in their arrogant, patronizing, and heavy-handed abuse of their authority.

But people are dying! Of course people are dying. No one knows that more painfully than we do. It is our people who are dying. But need we point out that many of the people cheering Silverman's order today are cheering the death among us? Jerry Falwell wanted to close the baths. What side is he on?

But people are fucking! Of course people are fucking. No one knows that more than we do. Many of them are our friends, and some of them are ourselves. Some remain truly ignorant, others compulsive, others truly out of control. But these are people to be taught, people to be supported in change, people to be helped. These are not people to be spread to the four winds and people to be punished — as all of us are being punished by the broad swipe of Silverman's club.

Not since the dark days of June 7, 1977, when Dade County declared that we are unworthy of full citizenship, have we been attacked so bluntly. For on October 9, 1984, Mervyn Silverman declared that Gay men are incapable of full citizenship. He has declared that we are unfit and incompetent to rule our own lives. Mervyn Silverman has decreed that he, not we, will rule the most personal and private and sacred aspect of our beings.

There is a word for that kind of abuse of power. The word is fascism.

Dr. Silverman will protest that he is a good liberal. God protect us from the good liberals. He supports Gay Lib. He goes to Gay political dinners and many of his friends are Gay. He will recoil in horror at the notion that we link him with fascism. He would never deny us jobs. He would never put us in jail. He would never beat us up or kill us.

He won't have to. Dr. Mervyn Silverman has already done his part. The thugs will take it from here.

Among the sadnesses of this grim morality play, one of the greatest is that this man truly does not understand what he has done.

But we do. And we will live with the consequences for some time to come.

Brian Jones



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CONTRIBUTORS

Burney Allgood, Les Balmain, Michael Benzry, Philip Campbell, Jerry De Gracia, Jerry R. De Yoyng, Leslie Ewing, Dug Figley, Chuck Forester, Wayne Friday, George Heymont, Mike Hippler, Frank J. Howell, T.J. Hughes, Peter Keane, Michael Lasky, Arthur Lazere, Charles Linebarger, George Mendenhall, Gene Miller, Nez Pas, Paul Reed, Dion B. Sanders, Marv. Shaw, Bernard Spunberg, Karl Stewart, Paul Trefzger, Tom Vindeed, Dick Walters, Steve Warren, Rick Weatherly, John Wetzel, Allen White, Keith White, Bob Woolhouse

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Violence Bill

★ On Sept. 26, Governor Deukmejian signed Assembly Bill 848 into law, thereby adding sexual orientation, age, and physical disability to California's Freedom from Violence statute. It is the first time in California history that Gay people have been afforded positive protection by a state statute here, and is (hopefully) the first of several such protections.

As the Gay man who originally conceived and proposed the first two of the above amendments on Jan. 1, 1982, I here publicly congratulate Assembly Member Tom Bates of Berkeley, who in the face of procedural opposition from Art Agnos and the usual homophobia from religious oppressors, carried the bill so successfully that it was passed by both houses and signed by the governor on the first attempt. It should be noted that every state legislator from San Francisco, including Milton Marks and Willie Brown, Jr., absolutely refused to carry this bill. (My suggestion reached Mr. Bates through the efforts of Ed Sebesta.) Perhaps if Mr. Bates took over Assembly Bill 1 (on freedom from employment discrimination for Gays) it would become law a whole lot sooner.

Thank you, Tom Bates!

Richard Gayer
San Francisco

Proud Faggot

★ I would be most pleased if you would print the following in reply to the letter in your "Letters" column from Gerald A. Martin.

"A rose by any other name . . ." Has the time not come for Gay people to get concerned about matters of true importance like our right to live free and unharassed like other people, and for us to be prepared to fight, together, for these rights? Has the time not come for us, once and for all, to stick together, work together, and struggle together for the things we all so long for? Let's grow up a bit so we can get somewhere as a united community.

I find it most distressing that a man can be so worried by a name, most probably, used in jest. Has Mr. Gerald A. Martin never heard the old saying "Sticks and stones may hurt my bones but words will never harm me"? As soon as we start laughing a bit at ourselves, other people will stop. Mr. Martin, to say that you will not vote for Mr. Britt because he used a word that you dislike is ludicrous. Should we not either vote for, or against, a person on their record and their ability to do the job at hand? I think so!

Please sign me: Faggot, and proud.

P. Warwick May
Oakland

Gay Euphemism

★ I was amused by the letter in this week's issue from Mr. Gerald A. Martin expressing his dismay over Harry Britt using the word "faggot" (when addressing a Gay group), further clarifying his problem with the politics of semantics by going on to say how uncomfortable it makes him feel when Black people call each other "nigger."

Aside from the fact that "Gay" is a euphemism, as a homosexual man I find the word totally inadequate and inappropriate to describe the experience. I do consider myself queer, or a cocksucker even, but I am not Gay at all. In fact, I am the opposite of Gay — I am angry!

It is that anger which allows me to feel free to call myself a faggot and to call my brothers, including Mr. Britt with whom I often disagree, faggots also. It is this same anger that allows Blacks to own back the

language of their oppressors (Whites) and use the word "nigger" among themselves.

It serves as a reminder of our oppression and it defuses the hurt and pain implicit in name-calling to own the words for ourselves.

Mr. Britt may call me a fag or a cocksucker anytime he pleases as long as he doesn't do it derisively or in the presence of "breeders." A fag calling another fag "fag" is not being insulting — it's being real, using the real word to describe the real experience. When we all begin to understand and accept the logic of this powerful political ideology, all the buzzwords will be defused and useless.

Then, when breeders finally realize they are not going to hurt our itsy-bitsy feelings one bit when they shout "Hey, faggot!" and when racists begin to see their buzzwords falling on deaf ears, there will no longer be a need for these loaded words in anyone's mouth and we can all get down to being what we are first and foremost: regular human beings, wonderfully diverse in color and sexuality.

John S. Connolly III
San Francisco

Mad as Hell

★ I, for one, am mad as hell and won't take it anymore. The blatant homophobic behavior of elected officials at every level cannot be tolerated by a free people. In spite of the city ordinance forbidding discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, the mayor vetoed the Domestic Partners Bill on the thinnest of excuses and now, with the forever prudish attitude of a barren woman, she wants to close the baths.

Separate is inherently unequal was the ruling of the Supreme Court in *Brown v. The Board of Education*. That began a 10-year initial struggle by Black people for human rights that they still must fight for today. Are we going to be pushed back in the closet?

The mayor continues to single us out as a group. If we're the only ones affected by AIDS then that is proof we're genetically different from straight people and should be treated like every other ethnic minority. Only Black people have sickle-cell trait. And if we deserve to be quarantined like Typhoid Mary, then we deserve our own quotas in the Police Department, too.

Finally, the First Amendment prohibits affecting the establishment of religion, acting as if any one of them is better than another. We're being hounded by these panderers of the collection plate who discovered that bigotry is big bucks among the chosen, and they don't pay taxes. The law mandates freedom from religion too. It's blatant that we're the victims of religious discrimination which is both unconstitutional and illegal. But the bandits and robber barons in office find it more lucrative to side with the viciously self-righteous than to be truly moral and upright.

White Night should be a reminder to us and to them that we won't suffer injustice any longer. Vote your sexual preference, not your pocketbook. Think about it hard. Which would you rather sleep with?

D.J. De Pizo, Esq.
San Francisco

Letter Policy

★ The Bay Area Reporter welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.



LETTERS

Exploiting Anxiety

★ Steve Perkins' persistence in couching his services in vague medical terms (except, of course, in his back-of-the-B.A.R. ad where he announces right off the bat the size and condition of his cock) tells me he's a bona-fide salesman. What he's doing is not illegal, and it may not be unethical — read that ad carefully — but it sure is exploiting anxious Gay men at a time when anxiety is running high.

That he charges "Dudes, 25-35, no fee" strongly suggests that he wants his and their cake, too. What he's charging \$50 for can be done for free. It therefore follows that he isn't just selling the cleansing of colons.

John D. Dolan
San Francisco

Mommy Feinstein

★ Once again Dianne Feinstein is stirring up the idea of closing the baths. Other issues may be involved, she may have other motives, admitted or not, but for me the main point is that Mayor Feinstein seems to be playing the role of the Good Mommy who thinks that she alone is responsible for our health and welfare.

She seems to think that she alone knows what is best for her stupid, ignorant, irresponsible, and incompetent children. And she seems to be willing to deprive us of our rights and freedom to make our own choices for the sake of what she believes is right. And I say that what she seems to believe is all lies.

The fact is that I am and each of us is totally responsible for our own health and lives. If any of us goes to the baths or anywhere to have sex, safe or not, that is our own choice, and in that choice we take responsibility for ourselves, our health, our lives. If I get sick or am unhappy, poor or feel lonely or deprived, it is not Mayor Feinstein's fault, the government's, Reagan's, or the newspaper's fault or the fault of "that creep who did that to me."

My sickness or misery, as much as my health and happiness, are the direct result of previous beliefs, attitudes, actions, and choices, right or wrong. I may not always have done the right thing, I may even be wrong now, but I insist that I am nobody's victim, and nobody else, not even Mayor Feinstein, can or will "save" me.

Personally, I have chosen total sexual abstinence (until I change my mind). It too has its consequences. Now I see, as I did not in the early unhappy days of abstinence, that I must find new ways to be intimate with others, to share, to love. But for me sex is not life's only benefit and pleasure. Life offers infinite forms of love, beauty, joy, challenges, opportunities — whatever I want.

I have chosen abstinence, first, because I don't enjoy safe sex. I don't like the holding back, the fear, the concern about who's doing what to whom, who's secreting what and where. More important, I believe that we are all wonderful and still have a lot to contribute to the world. I want us all, every one of us, to go on living as long as we can.

I may or may not have the virus in my body now. That is irrelevant. But I will have no part in its spreading further. We all want that virus dead, but I don't look to government to kill it for me. I will kill that virus the only way I know how. And I believe that we are all worthy of love and respect and it is out of that respect for myself and others that sexual abstinence becomes my act of love, with all men everywhere, until that virus is gone and can't kill us anymore, until we can all love each other again without fear, guilt or blame.

But closing the baths is about as far as anyone can get from a solution and a real answer to the loss of our friends and those we love, to the grief, loneliness, and fear that we still live, still find in our lives. To close the baths will only bring us closer to tyranny and enslavement. Why? Because in accepting the baths' closure we will accept the lie that someone else, in this case Savior Dianne, is smarter and knows what's best for us. Because we will have surrendered our responsibility for our own lives and, doing so, will have surrendered our freedom. Believe it or not.

Dick Jones
San Francisco

Disease for Profit

★ The most recent addition to AIDS atrocity stories ran in the Sept. 4, 1984 *Wall Street Journal*. Instead of a personalized dumping of the sick and the dying, this atrocity concerned the rate of profit on the anticipated AIDS vaccine.

"Long development, the high costs of human trials and liability for accidental cases of disease have meant profits from vaccine have been less than profits from antibiotics and tranquilizers," says Stanley Plotkin, who developed rubella (measles) vaccine. "Fewer and fewer companies are willing to assume the risks." *WSJ*, 9/4/84

The article quotes Peter Fischinger of the National Cancer Institute, "I don't think the government will want to be involved this time . . . It (the vaccine) should be done by a commercial entity."

Our lives are at stake and they're talking profits. People have always made money off of us — cops, blackmailers, bar and bathhouse owners, drug dealers, and landlords. It's nothing new.

But if a vaccine is developed, will only the real estate speculators and bar owners be able to afford it?

When faced with the cold, calculating logic of a

businessman and the indifference of a bureaucrat, disease will spread.

In the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Sept. 10, there was another article promising a vaccine against AIDS in a few months. The article later went on to say how labs were flouting scientific procedure and reporting findings in press conferences rather than in scientific journals in order to attract funding. Obviously that was exactly what the lab was doing — sensationalizing science to increase their chances of funding. They were also creating false hopes among a lot of us — no vaccine should be given to the public without testing for side effects. Even so we still run the risk of side effects showing up years later.

The capitalist health care system is wrecking havoc with our lives and medical science. If access to the health care system is based on profits, the sick cannot afford treatment nor the healthy prevention. The alternative is some form of socialized medicine. Not only would it meet many of our health needs, but it would also allow us to make some real coalitions with other groups that are excluded from the Republican Prosperity Sphere.

Sean McShee
San Francisco

What a Night!

★ On behalf of the Golden Gate Business Association, the GGBA Foundation, and the entire "22 On The Red" Committee, I want to thank the entire community for the support we received in putting on this event. This was our fifth annual "22 On The Red," and every year the event has become larger and more successful.

The proceeds from "22 On The Red" totaled over \$30,000 this year. All the proceeds go back to the Lesbian and Gay community in the form of grants awarded to nonprofit agencies through the GGBA Foundation. Our success is directly related to the generous support of the Gay and Lesbian business community and friends — who donated an unprecedented \$30,000 in prizes for the event.

Also Val Stroh Chevrolet, who donated a 1985 Chevy Sprint to the GGBA Foundation. This great little car was raffled off (\$1 a ticket) the night of the event — and we were especially pleased to have Carol Channing and Andrea McArdle there to help draw the winning ticket.

The "22 On The Red" Committee starts work in May and June. We spend lots of time organizing what has become one of our community's most successful parties. And mostly we all want to say thank you to each of you for your participation, your donations, and your continued support.

Laurie McBride
President, GGBA

AIDS and Vitamin C

★ In the Sunday, Sept. 23, 1984 *San Francisco Examiner* the headline appeared, "Medical Team — Healers Who Can't Heal."

From what is said in the article, it seems the conventional medical establishment realizes it has been following the wrong guidelines in treating AIDS at San Francisco General Hospital. It is admitting what is being done does not work, and the patients die.

Well, since 1982 I have been trying to convince these experts they are not proceeding in the right direction.

In April of 1982 I was diagnosed with KS. I followed the medical advice being given by my doctor, and started triple agent chemotherapy. But at the same time I spent my days in the UC Medical Library learning about this condition. I very quickly learned that immune suppressing treatments would only result in death for the patient. I also learned that anti-dosing Vitamin C works wonders in viral diseases. You do not have to know the name of the virus. Vitamin C does not discriminate. From the day I was diagnosed I started heavy, heavy doses of Vitamin C. After realizing the medical treatments did not make any sense, I stopped the treatments. Well, instead of dying as my doctors expected, I got better.

I also purged myself of intestinal parasites.

I have listened to the medical community call Dr. Linus Pauling a quack, but that did not bother me. I knew what ascorbic acid does, and I have proved it to myself.

During the past three years, a number of people diagnosed with AIDS have taken their health in their own hands with remarkable results. Because of this they are alive and well years later.

Is the medical community afraid to admit many persons diagnosed with AIDS are still alive in San Francisco up to three years after diagnosis? These are the people that chose alternative therapy against the advice of their doctors.

If the medical community still continues with its head in the sand, then the public must turn elsewhere for relief from AIDS.

Last year the medical community said no one lives longer than two years after contracting AIDS. This year they said no one lives longer than three years. Well, next month they will have to change this to four years, because I know of people still alive doing Vitamin C.

There should be an immediate investigation of this entire matter. I am tired of watching people die because they listened to their doctors.

Stew Anderson
San Francisco

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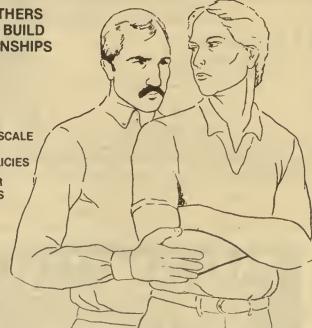
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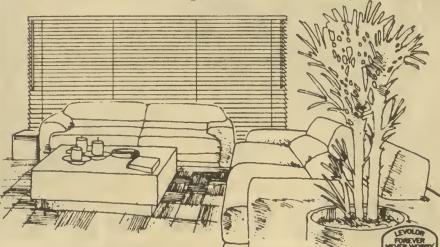
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Boy-Love Activists Seek Gay Support

*Conference Draws 70 Listeners;
Frank Talk on Sex With Kids*

by Mark McHarry

Gay men have an obligation to point out that child sexual abuse is not related to consensual sex between men and boys, declared Gay liberation panelists at a forum last weekend. The forum was on Man/Boy Love and Sexual Liberation and was sponsored by the North American Man/Boy Love Association here last week.

The event at the Pride Center closed the Eighth National Membership Conference of the controversial New York-based group. It presented movement pioneers Harry Hay, a founder of the Mattachine Society, and Jim Kepner, curator of the International Gay and Lesbian Archives. They paid public tribute to the men who had befriended them as boys.

Another participant, Morris Kight, a Gay activist from Los Angeles, denounced the current media furor over child molestation as an attempt to divert attention from the broader issue of heterosexual child neglect.

Jes Harrison, a 16-year-old Gay youth becoming emancipated from his parents, recounted the trauma his parents and police inflicted upon him when his relationship with a college student was discovered. David Thorstad, radical Gay activist and NAMBLA founder, said that the only "crime" of boy-lovers was that they encouraged boys in their rebellions against societal restrictions.

The two-hour discussion, which gathered a lively crowd of about 70, concluded an otherwise uneventful two-day conference, closed to the public, in which NAMBLA officials reported paid membership gaining very slowly from its current figure of slightly under 400.

The group's members reviewed recent events in Philadelphia, where Giovanni's Room, a Gay and feminist bookstore, removed NAMBLA and other pro-man/boy-love literature from its shelves. The removal happened in the wake of a city-wide controversy over the store's selling of a pedophile pamphlet titled "How to Have Sex With Kids."

The conference also heard reports on the recent strengthening of federal and state child pornography laws, and on the reaction among man/boy love activists in liberal Holland to the crackdown on child sexuality in the United States.

Founded in 1978, and with chapters in Boston, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco, NAMBLA's goals are to organize support for men and

boys involved in sexual and other relations with each other, and to help educate society about them.

At the forum held Sunday night, David Thorstad asserted, "There isn't a boy out there who doesn't need a blowjob right now" in his argument that boys seek out sex.

"The drive towards sexual pleasure is irrepressible. Boys will always do it. They will do it with women, with each other, and with men. Why? Because it feels good."

He dismissed what he said is a common stereotype of man-boy love of a little boy being anally penetrated by a man.

"It is so rare that it is beside the point for our discussion. Men and boys, by and large, engage in sexual activities that the boy wants. Boys — especially Gay boys — are often desperate for sex. They want to explore their body very badly. They can't find this out from anyone other than a Gay man."

"Boys almost never complain to authorities about their relations with men. The presumption in all the talk about child abuse is that the sex makes the boy a victim. If this were true, why is it that no boy in all the cases that have come NAMBLA's way has ever filed a complaint? Neither have any parents. The police are the ones who file the complaints."

Morris Kight declared that there is an enormous hate campaign being waged in the name of child molestation. He recounted past scare campaigns against Communists, Japanese-Americans, and Vietnamese, and said that their purpose is usually to "distract our attention from the really substantive problems."

"There is precious little being said about child neglect, which this country is doing nothing about. 400,000 children attempt suicide each year; 5,000 make it. All of them are victims of genocide. We need to be concerned about child care in a much more creative way. We must take responsibility for our children."

"We are urging people to express hatred. If it goes on, child-

ren will be isolated. Even now, a high school one block away from where I live has requested an emergency appropriation to build a high fence around the school. America is building fences to keep everyone out."

Kight said that boy-lovers, Gays, and others involved in social change should challenge the New Right on its lack of action about child care and unwanted pregnancies.

"Be heartless in your dealing with people about child abuse. Bringing a child into the world who's not going to have proper nutrition or schooling is a crime."

Sixteen-year-old Jes Harrison told a hushed audience that when his relationship with a 19-year-old college student was discovered, Harrison's parents threatened him with imprisonment.

"They hit me. They put me into a car and took me to the police. I was interrogated two and one-half hours in a dark room with only my mother's boyfriend present. I had no lawyer. When I told the police I had been beaten by my parents they said it was normal."

"My mother took a petition around the neighborhood and even wrote letters to our congressman to try to get my lover thrown into jail. I thought I could be thrown into jail for being Gay. I was being bombarded with bullshit."

Harrison urged that Gay groups leaflet high schools with information about homosexuality, and that they provide more resources for Gay youth. "Right now in San Francisco there's nothing for anyone under 18," he pointed out.

Jim Kepner of the Gay and Lesbian Archives observed that it is no surprise that much of the Lesbian and Gay movement "bitterly rejects and fears" the issue of man-boy love.

"A point I've been trying to make is that if we reject the boy-lovers in our midst today we'd better stop waving the banner of the Ancient Greeks, of Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Oscar Wilde, Walt Whitman, Horatio Alger, and Shakespeare. We'd better stop claiming them as part of our heritage unless we are broadening our concept of what it means to be Gay today."

Harry Hay, now involved with the Radical Fairies, also told a story of his first sexual encounter with another person:

"In 1926 I was 14 years old. I got a job in a tramp steamer sailing from San Francisco to San Pedro. Next to me I swabbed deck was a very nice 25-year-old guy. For the first time I found somebody I could trust. For the first time in my life I found out about the world I might someday be able to enter, and I found it with his trust and love."

"I remember his saying to me afterwards that you could be in any strange town in any strange land — where there isn't a word being spoken that you recognize, where there isn't a custom being carried out that you are familiar with. You look across the crowd and all of a sudden your eyes lock into another pair of eyes. All of a sudden those eyes open and glow. If you can open yourself to glow back, you're home, and you're safe."

"We have allowed this discussion of child molestation to go on and on," Hay concluded, "and we haven't spoken out as Gay males."

*When you need
to know . . .*

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Boy-Love Conference. Panelists included boy-love group founder David Thorstad (l.) and Jim Kepner (c.) with moderator Mark McHarry (r.). (Photo: Rink)

DEAN GOODMAN

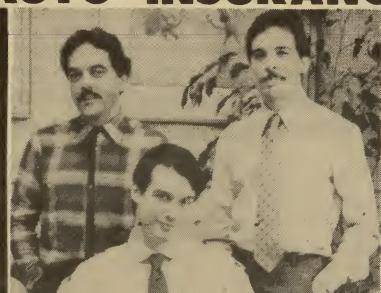
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Gay History Film Has S.F. Premiere

'Before Stonewall' at Castro; Airs on PBS Next Year

by Steve Warren

"The sad thing about experience is by the time you've got it, it's usually all you got."

— Starlight Express

Years in the making, *Before Stonewall* will have its first local public showing tonight at 8 at the Castro Theatre, a "sneak preview" to benefit Frameline and the *Before Stonewall* promotional fund.

Of 35 Lesbians and Gay men interviewed in the 87-minute documentary, six are from the Bay Area: Ted Rolfs, Hank Villas, Rikki Streicher, Red Jordan Arobateau, Jheri, and Jose Sarria. A seventh, writer-professor Ann Bannon, is from Sacramento. Sarria, the well-known "Widow Norton," will host tonight's show; he, Bannon, other local personalities, and some of the filmmakers will attend a champagne reception after the film.

Reviewed in *Variety* from the Toronto Film Festival, *Before Stonewall* was called "the best of this year's flock of docs about homosexuality." (I'm not sure what constitutes a "flock," but the statement seems to be an unwarranted slap at *The Times of Harvey Milk*, which is reviewed — favorably — by the same critic in the same issue.)

Narrated by Rita Mae Brown and directed by Greta Schiller, *Before Stonewall* is a collection of living history of Gay life from the 1920s through the 1960s,

gathered partly from archives but mostly from the memories of the Gay men and Lesbians who lived through the period, including those who were pioneers in the movement before it became a movement.

They've been compiled in this form not only to give Gays a sense of our roots, but to let the rest of the world know that we existed even before Phil Donahue started interviewing us.

"We want to reach people who don't know there have always been Gay people," Schiller told the *B.A.R.* last year when she was here filming interviews. "We want to talk about the Mary-and-Sues and Joe-and-Steves who lived together in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and laid the groundwork for the support network we've built today."

No one interviewed in the film lives in Oshkosh today. More than half of them live in New York or Los Angeles, but they likely tell about the towns they fled for these urban centers. Ac-



*Nightingale of Montgomery Street. Jose Sarria, circa 1961, one of those who explore Gay history in *Before Stonewall*, premiering tonight.*

cording to the *Variety* review, "... *pic* offers a wide range of testimony about vice-squad tactics, censorship, and witchhunts that included failed attempts to cleanse one of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's battalions as well as the State Dept. of suspected homosexuals. The spectrum of Gays includes Blacks, Native American Indians (sic), playwrights, bar owners, and even

women who hate typing."

As to the goal of reaching the uninformed, *Before Stonewall* will have that chance when it airs on PBS next spring in a 60-minute version. Prior to that, theatrical showings will probably be limited to the current series of benefit previews around the country.

Tickets for tonight's showing of *Before Stonewall* (subtitled

The Making of a Gay and Lesbian Community) are \$15 including the champagne reception, or \$7 for the film only. There may be some available at the door. ■

Dan White Film Airs Nationally On Public TV

by Michael Lasky

When *The People vs. Dan White* first aired on KQED last November, it scored the highest ratings in that station's history. It will be rebroadcast nationally Oct. 17 at 8 p.m. and should not be missed.

It's a docu-drama expanded from Steve Dobbins' controversial stage play to include dramatic reenactments, political, legal, and journalistic observations by key people involved in the events leading up to and following the assassinations of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

The production succeeds on all counts — as drama, as documentary, and as an investigation into two key questions:

- Why and how a law and order man killed two people in cold blood;
- Why Dan White got away with murder.

For this national telecast, the original production has been extended with an explanation-of-the-events prologue that summarizes the events leading to the killings and the violent results of the trial's outcome.

The People vs. Dan White
KQED, Channel 9
October 17, 8 p.m.

WHY LIA BELL?

Read why the following gay/lesbian community leaders are supporting Lia Belli for State Senate:

"Lia Belli is a leader. She has taken her own initiative to fight for AIDS funding and against unfair immigration policies. She will provide San Francisco's lesbian and gay community with a representative who understands our issues, takes them seriously, and knows how to get results."

Harry Britt
San Francisco Supervisor

"Lia is a woman of firsts: She was the first non-lesbian/gay to be on the State anti-Briggs initiative; she was the first non-lesbian/gay on the Board of the National AIDS Foundation; she'll be the first woman senator from Northern California. When our community needs help Lia is there with action and results."

Bob Cramer, Chair
Cable Car Awards

"Lia Belli is a fighter for equality for lesbians and gay men. Her contribution to the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights was invaluable. In 1982, as President of the California Democratic Council, she helped form a state-wide lobby effort against the anti-gay 'Family Protection Act.' She is our friend and deserves our support."

Paul Boneberg,
President, Stonewall Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club

"Northern California has never had a woman state senator. We have an opportunity to elect a progressive, effective, qualified leader. The time is now—the candidate is Lia Belli."

Carol Migden,
President, Harvey Milk
Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club

"Effective, smart and committed, Lia will give San Francisco really effective leadership in Sacramento. She will be a leader in the Senate as she has been in the Democratic party."

Carol Ruth Silver
San Francisco Supervisor

"Lia Belli has been a stalwart Democrat for many years. I have no doubt that she will continue to serve our community effectively in Sacramento."

Pat Norman, Activist and
Candidate for San Francisco
Supervisor

"Lia is a refreshing, caring, articulate person. She will be an effective State Senator."

Connie O'Connor, Chair
Political Action Committee
Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay
Democratic Club

"Lia Belli is an outstanding citizen and will provide needed representation for the lesbian/gay community. Our priorities are Lia's—she deserves our community's support."

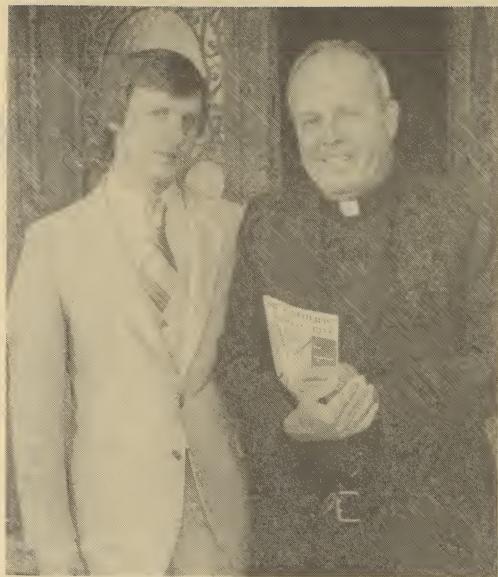
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Stonewall Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club

THE DEMOCRAT
Lia Belli
STATE SENATE





Funeral for a Friend. Gene Walz and Father Raymond Hill at services for Walz's lover, David Caravalho. (Photo: Rink)

Man Wins His Last Wish

(Continued from previous page)

David wanted an open casket service, songs sung by friends, cremation, and to have his remains scattered in the ocean — near Hawaii if possible.

He "wrote out" his biological family. He named his father, mother, and four brothers, and stated, "I specifically do not want any of my heirs listed here to have any say or power over my body or any arrangements made after my death."

Walz and Caravalho next visited Arthur J. Sullivan Funeral Home. "We picked out a casket and the color," Walz said. "Sullivan agreed to have him embalmed and to the open casket."

When Caravalho died, Sullivan's removed his body from Pacific Medical Center and took it to the funeral parlor on upper Market. Immediately, Caravalho's funeral plans began unravelling.

"They told me they didn't like to embalm him so they wouldn't do it," Walz said. "They agreed to an open casket, but only if it was sealed." The technique would use a clear plexiglass "bubble" that would allow viewing, but hermetically seal off Caravalho's body from those attending the service.

"I didn't like their ideas and I wouldn't approve it. I wouldn't release the body," Walz said. During a telephone conversation with Arthur J. Sullivan, "he called me an asshole," Walz said.

Frightened about David's body, Walz telephoned the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

"They said I could contact another funeral parlor. Most people think once a body is in a funeral parlor you can't remove it — but it's not true," Walz said.

Walz contacted Lambda Funeral Guild, 2275 Market St. Lambda is an affiliate of the Neptune Society, which employs Gays and especially seeks the Gay market. Walz signed a legal authorization for Lambda to take possession of the body from Sullivan. The job looked simple — Sullivan and Lambda are across the street from each other.

FIGHT FOR THE BODY

But the job became complicated. "Sullivan did not want to release that body to me. I sent the removal person over with the van. He was hassled by Art Sullivan and his staff. He was told that because Art Sullivan expected the blood family to come in, he wanted to hold on to it.

"Gene (Walz) talked to Sullivan on the phone from here in my office. Sullivan called here and was very rude with me, then he told Gene he wouldn't release the body, that he was waiting for the biological family to come in."

While the telephone confrontations were taking place, Serano said staff from Sullivan's physically blocked the Lambda body removal van. "I've been in this business 11 years and I've never seen a case like this," Serano said.

Walz remembered of the telephone conversation, "When I talked to Arthur Sullivan, he

said the family was supposed to come down and see the body. They wanted a burial — but David wanted cremation."

Walz contacted attorney Wolf, then demanded — as executor of Caravalho's will — to have the body released. Sullivan's Funeral Home relented, releasing the body to Lambda about one hour before the Caravalho family was to arrive at Sullivan's and discuss a Catholic burial.

AMAZING GRACE

Friday, Sept. 21, was sunny, breezy, and warm. Dozens of Gay men milled about the lawn outside the cool, stone rotunda of the Columbarium — the Neptune Society's shrine for services and the deposition of people's remains. A dozen of those present were people with AIDS who had come to know David Caravalho at San Francisco General.

Standing apart, in a close

group, Caravalho's surviving family stood: three of his brothers, his grandmother, a few cousins. In their more formal, darker clothes, they were a contrast to the mostly blue-jeans-and-necktie dress of David's Gay friends. There was no mixing between the groups.

Father Raymond Smith, chaplain from General Hospital, would attempt in the service to bridge the two groups — to follow Caravalho's wishes, and provide the Catholic presence the family wanted.

"I came to know him when he came to us at San Francisco General Hospital. Believe me, he was a very sick young man," Smith said. Smith told Caravalho's family that, in his final days, Caravalho "received the blessing and the sacraments. He appears before Our Lord in need of His mercy — as we all will."

Chris Parsons, a friend of

(Continued on next page)



Attorney Carl Wolf (Photo: Rink)

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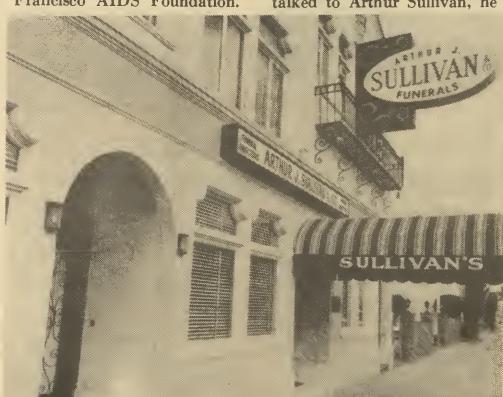
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Withheld Gay Man's Body. Sullivan's Funeral Home, on Market near Noe, where staff attempted to prevent transfer of David Caravalho's body. (Photo: Rink)

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Man Wins His Last Wish

(Continued from previous page)

Caravalho's, eulogized him as "a young man with beautiful brown eyes — eyes that weren't sorry for himself. He was a fighter and he helped a lot of other people fight."

The service ended in song. Caravalho had selected two songs — "In My Life" by the Beatles, and "Amazing Grace," as sung by Joan Baez. As Caravalho's body lay in the open casket, surrounded by flowers, the stone walls and dome of the Columbarium filled with dozens of David's friends singing the songs he wanted.

The voices were mismatched, some off-key, some straining in the higher notes; but there was an honest and unself-conscious beauty to the refrain "Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound."

David Caravalho had two families. Both were singing and crying and grieving at his death.

AIDS PHOBIA

Caravalho's case, though extreme, is not unique, said Serrano. That's a judgment shared by others in the funeral service trade.

"It's happening in different mortuaries in the Bay Area. I know of another recent case where a similar thing happened. They were more polite, but they withheld certain services which the family requested," Serrano said.

The problem is AIDS phobia — fear of handling bodies of people who died of AIDS. "I can understand funeral homes being concerned, but I can't see denying families the services of their choice. I know of two cases where hermetically sealed caskets were required. There was another, a memorial service without the body present — well, this is cutting the family short of their preferred services," Serrano said.

Embalmers' fears have some foundation in fact. AIDS can be transmitted by blood contact — so careless embalming could expose a worker to the presumed AIDS virus. "You take precautions, but you don't require a closed casket — and I say this as an embalmer myself," Serrano said.

The problem, Serrano said, is that the funeral industry in California doesn't have guidelines for handling bodies of people with AIDS. "All of these decisions are based on personal preference, and some of them don't make any sense," Serrano said. In 1982, the New York state mortuary association devised such guidelines, after several funeral homes in New York City refused to take bodies of people who died of AIDS.

Caravalho's case also highlights a growing legal problem — who carries out the funeral wishes of a Gay person. Laws uniformly ignore Gay relationships. No matter how long lovers have been together, no matter how close they may have been, no matter how many contracts they have entered into, a biological relative as distant as a cousin or a divorced spouse legally has power over funeral arrangements.

The exception is when the person who dies leaves a will, spells out funeral plans, and names an executor who can be relied upon to enforce those plans. "People need to know how necessary it is to have a will," attorney Wolf said. And not just to have the will, but to keep a copy handy: A person can often be buried before the will is unsealed and read.

DEATHS

Paul Gibson

Paul Gibson died at San Francisco General Hospital on Sept. 25 of AIDS-related complications. Paul was active at the very beginnings of the Gay Liberation Movement in New York City. He moved to San Francisco in 1972 and was co-chair of the 1973 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee.

He was known by many as the manager of Liberty Baths, where he was responsible for creating the first full-time in-house artist position in a San Francisco bathhouse. This resulted in the painting of the famous Liberty Baths Panels.

He was always out for a good time. He is survived by many friends both here and in New York City.

Barbara Deming

On Aug. 2, the poet and pacifist philosopher Barbara Deming died. Barbara Deming was active in the civil rights, feminist, and anti-nuclear movements. She had many articles and books published. She wrote her acclaimed *Prison Notes* about the time she spent in a Southern prison. Her most recent book is *We Are All Part Of One Another*. There will be a memorial to celebrate her life on Nov. 10, 5:30 p.m., at Fort Mason, Bldg. C, Rm. 300. Bring a candle and holder. For more information call Linda, 681-9679, or Nina, 451-3789.

Douglas Erlam-Taylor

Memorial services for East Bay interior designer Douglas Roger Erlam-Taylor will be conducted at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Arlington Community Church in Kensington.

A native of Cheshire, England, he died in a local hospital Sunday at the age of 62.

For the past decade he operated Roger Erlam Interiors Inc. in Oakland and did the designs for many important homes and public buildings in the East Bay.

He became a captain with the Royal Corps of Engineers after completing his education in England and served in Italy, Greece, and India. After leaving the service he joined Sandersons of London, a firm specializing in wallpaper and fabric manufacturing.

Before moving to California in 1960, he was employed as a design executive with Conde Nast Publications Inc., publishers of *Vogue* and *House and Garden* magazines and did extensive lecturing.

Before opening his own Oakland firm, Erlam-Taylor joined Fraser's in Berkeley and developed that firm's interior design department.

Patrick D. Conroy, M.D.

Friends of Patrick D. Conroy, M.D. will want to know that Dr. Conroy died on Sept. 27 after a long illness. Dr. Conroy was born and raised in Ireland, but came to the United States in the 1950s. An anaesthesiologist, he practiced in Toms River, New Jersey, and later in Chico, Richmond, and Oakland, California. Dr. Conroy will be remembered for his sensitivity, compassion, and wry sense of humor. He requested that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the Intertribal Friendship House at 523 East 14th Street, Oakland, CA 94606.

James Anthony "Tony" DiLillo

Tony DiLillo, born Jan. 16, 1947, died Sept. 27 in San Francisco. A wake and benefit estate sale for the Ward 5B Patient Care Fund at San Francisco General Hospital will be held Saturday, Oct. 13, and Sunday, Oct. 14, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Tony's house, 60 Sharon. Please come and help celebrate Tony's life and memory.

He is survived by his father, Anthony; sister, Margaret; and a brother, William.

"Make a left turn in Nepal."

National Blacks, Gays Conference Spotlights 'Rainbow Coalition' Efforts

New York — While traditionally keeping their distance, Blacks and Gays are more frequently finding themselves together on the firing line as both are coming under increasing attack from the right wing. For this reason, many Gay leaders are coming to agree with Rev. Mike Piazza, pastor of Jacksonville, Florida's Metropolitan Community Church and the former director of Atlanta's Gay

Community Center, who has said, "The cutting edge of 1984 for the Gay movement is the relationship between Blacks and Gays."

Piazza will join a host of activists in calling a National Conference on Blacks and Gays to be held at the Otto Rene Castillo Center, 7 East 20th St. in New York City, on Saturday, Oct. 20.



In the Lead? Private polls say Quentin Kopp may be top vote-getter on Nov. 6, which would give him presidency of the Board of Supervisors. (Photo: Rink)

Quentin Kopp Talks (Gay) Politics

He's Voted for Gay Rights And Feels 'Misunderstood'

by George Mendenhall

Quentin Kopp: The name itself brings strong reaction from even casual political observers in San Francisco, especially in the Lesbian and Gay community.

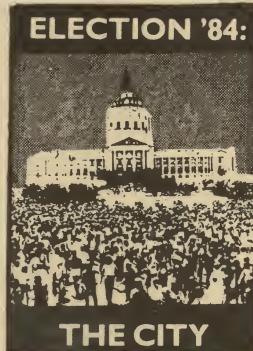
What does the controversial supervisor think of Gay politics? How does he perceive his role in city politics? Why does he avoid marching in the Gay Freedom Day Parade? Does he feel he has been getting fair treatment from Gay political leaders in Democratic clubs? What does he consider to be his constituency? Kopp replied to these questions this week in a candid interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Quentin Kopp has drawn special attention in this because he would like to be president of the city's Board of Supervisors. The supervisor with the highest number of votes now automatically becomes the president, and wins the power and prestige which goes with that position.

It is the president who appoints the important committees, and the committees often determine what kind of legislation and resolutions the supervisors adopt. Kopp denied that being president is important in his busy life — but City Hall insiders believe he wants it.

Supervisor John Molinari has been strongly endorsed by the three Gay Democratic clubs in the city — Milk, Stonewall, and Toklas — while Kopp, who is also a Democrat, has been denied those endorsements. Molinari aggressively seeks the presidency and chaired the Toklas club's annual banquet recently. Why didn't Kopp attend?

"These clubs are to the left of where I am," Kopp said. "I am a moderate-to-conservative on the political spectrum. Ideologically, these clubs express the party's philosophy, which varies from my political philosophy. The leadership of the clubs probably causes this, but the memberships follow that leadership and it is reflective of the Democratic Party's philosophy." Kopp never came close to receiving the Democratic club endorsements, but he did come within a few votes of being endorsed by one Gay political club — the Concerned Republicans



for Individual Rights.

Are the Gay Democratic clubs representative of the overall Gay community's politics. Kopp is not sure.

"My suspicion is that the Gay community is more to the center than the Democratic clubs indicate. These clubs are making it more difficult for themselves outside of the Gay community with nonactivists, both Gay and straight. They are too in-house, not relating to non-Gay groups which are not composed of political activists. It is just a suggestion but it looks like they would be more effective by broadening their perspective."

FIERCELY INDEPENDENT

The supervisor has endorsed or voted for every piece of Lesbian and Gay rights legislation which has come before the Board of Supervisors. Kopp said he thinks Gay people are

seeking equality, not special treatment. In spite of this voting record, a significant number of Gay people think Kopp is unsympathetic to Gay issues. He is frankly puzzled by this and thinks he is misunderstood.

"It is troubling to me," Kopp said. "It may be partly the way I express things. I am fiercely independent and that sometimes projects itself as not being very embracing. It is often lonely being independent, but it is the nature of things, the way it is."

Does Kopp think the Gay community is generally out of line in its conduct or demands? He pleads that his recent comment in the *New York Times* about the conduct in the Gay Freedom Day Parade was reflective of past years and he now considers the parade "more modest, less flamboyant."

Kopp has never marched in the parade, but recalls that neither has Mayor Feinstein, who has enjoyed broad Gay community support. Kopp said he does not participate in the parade because it has a reputation of being "bizarre." Does he think his marching in the parade would harm him politically with his constituency? He chose not to comment.

What is Kopp's constituency? He was quick to reply that although he enjoys some support from progressives and minorities, "my constituency starts with home owners, senior citizens on fixed incomes, families with children, working men and women, and Asians who believe in the work ethic."

The supervisor said he is proud of his efforts on the Board of Supervisors and his many activities outside of the board chambers. Aside from raising four children as a single parent, he has found time to serve on transportation, conservation, and air quality boards. This is in addition to his law practice.

"It takes a lot of juggling," the supervisor said. Assisting him with the juggling is his campaign manager, political consultant Jack Davis. Davis is the openly Gay person who ran Sheriff Mike Hennessey's 1979 election campaign.

CITY HALL WATCHDOG

Being called the "watchdog" over city finances is a label Kopp welcomes. He claims he has saved the city more than \$250 million in his 13 years on the board. His achievements in this area include a dropping of the utility tax from the poor's "Lifeline" telephone and water bills, tax exemptions for small businesses, and cuts in the sewer service tax.

Kopp has an image as a cantankerous person. He is aware of this and believes this is related to his role as a "protector" who knows the City Charter. He said, "I am intensely involved and concerned and that doesn't leave much time for frivolities. My sometimes apparently sullen manner comes out of my concern about the hypocrisy of politicians, the misuse of taxpayers' resources, and the improper practices that go on."

He also lays claim to varied, original legislation such as requiring that lot owners keep their property clean, separating the City Recorder from the Registrar's office, and legislation preventing any building at Golden Gate Park without board approval.

Some progressive politicians found pleasure with Kopp legislation such as rent control over vacancies (which the mayor vetoed and cost him some real estate owner endorsements), support for a nuclear freeze, the removal of atomic waste from the nearly Farallon Islands, and an ordinance which made it illegal to discriminate against children in renting property. ■

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BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Lesbian Co-Parent Wins Visitation

Ruling Extends Family Law To Same-Sex Relationships

by Charlie Linebarger

The decision of an Alameda County judge is a groundbreaking precedent for gay parents who are not biologically related to their children. The judge granted visitation rights to Linda Loftin, former lover and co-parent with Mary Flournoy, in the case of their daughter Sparkel.

The story began in the late 1970s when Flournoy and Loftin became lovers. Wanting a child, the couple arranged for Loftin's brother to donate sperm for an

artificial insemination.

Loftin's brother was chosen so that Loftin would have a blood relationship to the child. Soon

afterward a daughter, Sparkel, was born to the couple.

Attorney Karen Anderson Ryer told the *Bay Area Reporter* that she became involved in the case in late 1980 when Flournoy visited her in her office. The couple had separated, leaving Flournoy, the mother of two other children besides Sparkel, in severe financial straits.

Flournoy wanted help in getting child support from Loftin and an agreement from Loftin to share in the paying for improvements on her home that were incurred when the couple was still living together. By April 1981, Ryer added, Loftin had begun asking for visitation rights to see Sparkel.

"By April of 1981 there was such bad blood between the parties, as in any separation case," Ryer said, "that it had become impossible for them to work out any kind of voluntary agreement on visitation rights and child support." And so things remained until March of last year, when Loftin filed a complaint in Alameda County Superior Court demanding visitation rights.

In mid-1983, Ryer said, the Superior Court judge held a hearing on the matter and then sent the case to Family Court Services (a forced mediation program required in all separation cases where children are at issue, or more specifically where somebody, particularly a grandparent, biological parent, or step-parent, is claiming an interest in a child). An unsuccessful attempt was then made by Family Court Services practitioners to mediate between Loftin and Flournoy.

"I don't think I've heard of anything like this in California before," Ryer said, "where same-sex couples were allowed to use Family Court Services. We got a lot of funny looks when the three of us walked in there."

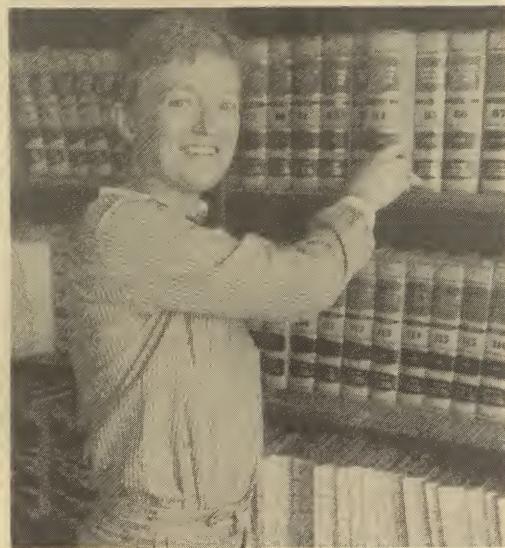
The courtroom at the hearing, according to Ryer, was filled with the press. The local dailies were trying to get their cameras in but the judge ordered them out.

(At the time of the artificial insemination Flournoy and Loftin had had some local coverage and a reporter for the *San Jose Mercury*, who was covering the court beat, had recognized their names in the complaint in advance of the hearing, and word had then gotten out.)

The judge put off ruling on whether Loftin had the right to use Family Court Services and instead sent the couple back into forced mediation with the hope that he would thereby avoid having to make a decision on jurisdiction.

In early 1984, the still unresolved standoff between Flournoy and Loftin was back in court for another hearing, before Family Court Services Judge Agrepelis. The judge had to decide whether to hear the case. According to Ryer, there is no case law or statutory law in California giving a same-sex partner the right to bring a matter before Family Court Services on behalf of a child born to the other partner in a lesbian or gay marital-type relationship.

In a ground-breaking decision, Judge Agrepelis ruled that California's Guardianship Law gave Loftin the right to try to prove that she was a "psycho-



Visitation Case attorney Karen Anderson Ryer of Oakland. (Photo: Rink)

logical parent." Under California law, a "psychological parent" is a person who stands in the same relation with a child as does a parent.

Thus the judge applied the Guardianship Law, which had originally been intended for use in cases involving foster parent situations, in a new and unusual way, according to Ryer, allowing for the first time a lesbian parent to take her case to Family Court Services.

"It was a very slim hanger for the hat to be hung upon," said Ryer, "but it was the right thing to do in terms of other people's lives."

Other lesbians, and some gay men, will be wondering what effect — if any — this decision will have on similar cases which may be brought to court in the future. According to Ryer, as an unwritten decision, Judge Agrepelis' opinion will have a binding effect only in his own

courtroom, but it will have a persuasive effect on all Family Court Services judges in the Bay Area.

Agrepelis' decision also serves to inform California attorneys on how to argue a similar case in California by using the Guardianship Law.

Another effect of the decision which Ryer would like to see is a stirring of the gay and lesbian community to put pressure on Assemblyman Art Agnos of San Francisco to see if legislation can be developed in the family law area to supply statutory statewide jurisdiction to gay and lesbian nonbiological parents to petition the courts for visitation rights and child support.

The legal standoff between Flournoy and Loftin has still not been settled, though it looks to Ryer like an agreement is in the works on an appropriate amount of child support, and on Loftin's visitation rights. ■

\$2,000 Raised for Campaigns In East Bay; Club Walks Precincts

More than \$2,000 was raised at a fundraiser honoring attorney Matt Coles, author of the Oakland, Berkeley, and San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Rights ordinances. The event was held by the Campaign for Equality, the political action fund of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club.

The week following the fundraiser the Campaign announced its first contributions of the fall season: \$500 to Oakland City Council member Marge Gibson, who is running for Alameda County Supervisor, District 4; \$100 to attorney Peggy Hora, who is running for Municipal Court Judge in Hayward; and \$200 each to Berkeley City Council candidate Ann Chandler and Berkeley School Board member Steve Lustig.

The club is planning precinct walking on the last three Saturdays before the election. On Oct. 20 and Nov. 3 the club will distribute literature for the Marge Gibson campaign. All those interested are urged to assemble at the Gibson headquarters, 484 14th St. (at Franklin), in downtown Oakland, at 10 a.m.

On Saturday, Oct. 27, the club will walk in Berkeley for endorsed candidates. Meet at 2916 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way (formerly Grove), at 10 a.m. A free breakfast will be provided by noted East Bay chef Leland Traiman for all those volunteering to help.

Please call Tom at 843-2459 or Mary Ann at 548-0329 for further information on how you can help out in the November election.

The club would also like to urge attendance at an Evening of Trivial Pursuits with Ann Chandler and Steve Lustig, candidates for Berkeley City Council and School Board, respectively, on Friday, Oct. 26, 6:30 p.m., at 1672 Tacoma in Berkeley. Donation \$5-\$10. For information, call Bob at 524-7156. ■

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NEZ PAS

TRIPUDITE PERSEVERANCE!

(A Gambado Nose?)

At 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28, sponsored dancers started to shake their booties, as it were, in hopes of lasting until Sunday midnight on the dance floor of the Spoiled Brat in Hayward.

I don't think anyone made it the full time.

But that's not important. What is important is that each entry got as many people as possible to pledge dollars for so many minutes of dancing. When the marathon ended — and *IF* all pledges are collected — a total of more than \$7,200 will be going to the East Bay AIDS Fund. Now, that's important!

Bill Stumps gleaned the honor for being the individual who was dancing the longest. Someone told me that he was on the floor the longest, but that conjures up too many interesting connotations. Boyd and Paul culled the izza for the longest dancing couple — and their pledges owe \$1,200 alone.

The auction (Palm Springs dream vacation for two, for nine days and nights, valued at \$5,800) was purchased for a mere \$1,700 by Russ, doorman at the Spoiled Brat.

Me thinks that there are quite a few corns and bunions down Hayward way, but their proprietors and proprietresses must feel extremely proud that so much was raised in such a little time for so little effort. I know, I know! The Spoiled Brat's effort just had to have been extraordinary, and a tip of Nez's nose to all involved. You may never know just who gives

thanks for your nisus, but rest assured that the thanks will be expressed by all who are assisted from the East Bay AIDS Fund.

ENTANGLED GUDDLE! (A SNAFU-ed Nose?)

Here's the scenario: one of our locals had to be rushed to emergency (as in 911) because of over zealousness in the heat of passion. I was told by a dowager title holder that there would be a benefit for that local, the Sunday after the Victory Brunch of Emperor/Empress VI. Powers that be of that particular Oakland pub knew nothing about it and were unable to get any positive information. The on-again/off-again benefit never was publicized, so I suspect that it never occurred.

Earlier this week I learned that said local "ordered" the current ACIE Empress to move all of the local's belongings into the residence of the dowager title holder. Said title holder is still suggesting a benefit for the local so that said local can have some spending money jingling in the pocket.

Is my mind the boggled one, or is someone else's? Stick by your guns, Empress!

UNMITIGATED AUTO-FELICITY! (A Singing Nose?)

The "FUN" times are back again. Remember when it was just plain fun to go to a bar? Remember back when you didn't go out just to dance? Remember the time when cruising wasn't the uppermost thing on your mind? Remember all the yesterdays before rock videos

and gigantic screens? Remember singing your heart out with a group of friends, even though you didn't know the words and every note was flatter than last week's bank account?

This past weekend (and continuing every Friday and Saturday night in October) all such moments of the good times were recaptured at Revol's new piano bar.

There are pianos and there are piano bars. There are piano players/singers and there is Bob Sandner. This talented professional has the innate ability not only to produce the requested melodies, but to make the requester a part of the entire presentation. Bob plays with his audience as it, indeed, plays with him. In a matter of moments, the center of attraction shifts from his nimble fingers and magical glib to each and every person within hearing distance. No one is untouched, and a mere presence demands top billing on the evening's program.

OROTUND EPHERMERIS! (A When-is-a-body-to-sleep Nose)

"Fatten your seat belt," the announcement stated, so fasten it I did. The Spoiled Brat just can't rest on its laurels from its 48-hour marathon, and has made public its manifesto of coming events, to wit:

- Monthly Wine Tastings, on the first Saturday of each month from 2 to 5 p.m. For a cost of \$3, their wine expert will guide you through at least three wines each month.

- Full Moon Party on the full moon of each month, including the monthly drawing from its mailing list. Also the Brat is starting a monthly progressive cash drawing at 11 p.m., from the numbers on the "I'm a Spoiled Brat" buttons. If no winner is present, \$50 will be added to the pot.

- Brothers night every Tuesday at 8 p.m. This Showtime feature is Gay comedy at its best.

- Football every Sunday afternoon and Monday evenings (sans Howard!), with 50 cent Henry Weinhard draft and 50 cent hot dogs.

- Classical Sunday starts at 4 p.m., with local talent entertaining with playing and/or singing classical music.

- Friday, Oct. 19 brings a return engagement of the Hip Hypnotist, Dr. Downs (As in Hugh of the old Concentration?) Those who witnessed it the first time will surely return, and those who missed it will surely want to be there.

The Brat has a cable address. Does anyone ever cable them? And why?

NEZ'S NOTES:

- Don't forget the latest East Bay AIDS Fund auction at Bench & Bar this Sunday from 4 to 9 p.m. It will feature the Lovely Little Mother, the current Mr. and Miss Gay Alameda County, Joe and Fuji, and Foxy Lady II, Nova. Yours truly has been requested to stay out of the entertainment segment, and adhere to my duties as record keeper/money collector.

- The prizes at the Hub's latest entertainment contest were \$50, \$50, and \$100, not \$25, \$50, and \$100 as printed.

- Sources inform me that the Investiture of Emperor and Empress VI, ACIE, Doug and Lady Billy, may take place at the Blue Dolphin in San Leandro. No date as of this writing, but as soon as all information is available, I'll pass it along.

The universe is not only queerer than we imagine, it's queerer than we CAN imagine! Can I smile yet? Love, ■

Nez



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East Bay Demos Schedule Endorsement Meeting Oct. 14

The November meeting of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club will be held Sunday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. at the west branch of the Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Ave. The meeting will focus on making endorsements on state and local ballot propositions, as well as some local races for county-wide boards.

Ballot measures from Albany, Berkeley, Oakland, Hayward, and Alameda County will be discussed and voted on. The public is invited to attend the free meeting.

Volunteers are needed for precinct walking in Berkeley on Saturday morning, Oct. 27, and in Oakland on Saturday mornings, Oct. 20 and Nov. 3. All walks start at 10 a.m.

In Oakland the club will be working to elect Marge Gibson, running for Alameda County Supervisor, District 4. As an Oakland City Council member, she successfully managed the adoption of California's strongest Lesbian and Gay Rights ordinance.

As an Alameda County Supervisor, Gibson said she will increase services for AIDS, support comprehensive Lesbian and Gay Rights legislation at the county level, and look favorably at funding requests for the Lesbian and Gay community's social service projects. Meet at 484 14th St. (at Franklin), at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 20 and Nov. 3.

In Berkeley, the club will be working to elect BCA candidates Ann Chandler, Don Jelinek, and Maudelle Shirek, who are running for City Council.

They have pledged to support immediate adoption and implementation of Domestic Partners legislation (while ABC incumbents want to "study" the matter until 1986).

They also pledge to insure representation of the Lesbian and Gay community on city commissions such as the Police Review Commission, the Commission on the Status of Women, and the Human Relations and Welfare Commission.

Also supported are Steve Lustig, incumbent school board member, and Joe Gross. Lustig recently helped adopt a Domestic Partners policy for the Berkeley School Board, making it the first known public agency in the world to do so. Lustig and Gross are committed to full implementation of the policy, and to using school curriculum to address the problem of teenage violence against Lesbian and Gay people.

Precinct walking in Berkeley will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 27. Meet at 2916 Martin Luther King Way in Berkeley (formerly Grove Street), near the Ashby BART station. Volunteers will be treated to a free breakfast by noted East Bay authority Leland Trainam.

For further information, please call Tom at 843-2459. ■



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Murder of 15-Year-Old Hustler: Brutal Death for a 'Sweet Kid'

Teens on the Street Say They Know Killer But Police, So Far, Have No Suspect

by Allen White

Ted Gomez, 15, who was found murdered last month, is becoming something of a symbol in the street life of San Francisco's Polk Street. Gomez fits the pattern of a kid who ran away to San Francisco, hustled for survival, made friends and ultimately became the victim of the dangers of street life.

On Wednesday, Sept. 26, thirty of his friends gathered at the Larkin Street Youth Center for a memorial service. Most of those who attended were between 13 and 18. Drive a car or stroll up Polk Street and you probably would recognize some of the kids at the service. The kids were angry, they were sad and they were scared. They feared that what happened to Ted could happen to them.

Some of these kids were lucky. They had come in contact with the Larkin Street Youth Center. The Center is a cooperative project of several community agencies and its goal is to help runaways who arrive in San Francisco.

Statistics show that most teens who run away from home to come to the city are not motivated by the glamour or the beauty of the city. They are here because of complicated dynamics in their family life. Many have been horribly neglected or abused by their families.

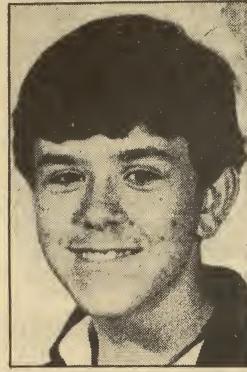
Many are terrified about being Gay and have been forced to face the agony of parents who won't accept or try to understand them.

The reality of survival brings them to Polk Street. To survive, many turn to hustling. Drugs become part of their lifestyle. The street becomes home and the street people become their family.

The Larkin Street Youth Center was opened last January to give these kids an option for survival. The center's statistics are impressive. If a person becomes a client, which basically means they want to try and help themselves, the agency can serve an important role.

Records show 47 percent of the kids who are clients have returned home, 16 percent have found regular jobs and 18 percent have realized a stable home situation. At the same time, 19 percent have fallen out of the program.

Ted Gomez is somewhere in all these statistics. He went to the center and he was trying to pull his life together. He had made friends at the center and with just a little more time, the



Ted Gomez

staff at the center believes they would have been a decisive factor in giving Ted's life direction and stability.

Murder intervened. On a Friday night about midnight, friends saw him being picked up by a trick. The next they heard was that his body had been found in the shrubbery off 43rd Avenue, in Golden Gate Park. The kids say they think they know who killed Ted Gomez. Indications are that the police also know.

Last Saturday night on Polk Street, a young, street-wise kid said, "There will be justice in the courts, and if not there will be justice in the streets." Up and down Polk Street they have their own composite of the murderer. It is as complete as anything the police would ever release. They say the man hasn't been around since Ted Gomez was murdered.

One man who cared about Ted Gomez wasn't at the Larkin Street Youth Center Memorial

Service. He was one of Ted's tricks, and contacted the **Bay Area Reporter** with his story.

"I was out walking on Polk Street and I saw him make eyes at me," the man recalls. "He said he was 19 and I paid him \$35 to come home with me."

"The kid was real tired and wanted to sleep," he said. "He was lousy sex and I felt ripped off," said the unidentified man. The man told of how Ted fell asleep and spent the night. Like everybody who talks about Ted, he talked about how "sweet and innocent" he seemed.

The next night, according to the man, two of Ted's friends came over to his house and demanded an additional \$65. They said that Ted had spent the night and the going overnight rate was \$100. The man said he paid the additional money.

Is the story this unidentified man tells true? It seems likely. Kids on Polk Street were not surprised to hear the tale. Several of the street kids thought they knew who this man was. The kids don't think he is the murderer, yet the man is scared. He has been visited by the police and he has contacted a lawyer, just in case.

As the man called the **Bay Area Reporter** to tell his story he described his fascination with the mystique of Polk Street. He is 55 and receives a regular monthly government check. He is drawn to the street and the new guys that arrive there. After Ted's murder, he says, he will never pick another kid up.

For those who choose that lifestyle, the trick or the hustler, life will go on. That is not the people who will be served by the Larkin Street Youth Center.

(Continued on next page)



Business on the Street. Sidewalk negotiations are part of survival for teens on Polk Street. (Photo: Rink)

Polk Street Police Meet Merchants, Gays

New Head of Northern Station Listens, Learns, and Reveals Plans

by Allen White

Tuesday morning, Oct. 9, Captain Frank Jordan, the new head of Northern Police Station, pulled members of the community he serves together to "open some doors." There has been immediate positive reaction that he is going to change the police image in the Polk Street area.

The meeting had been in the planning for over a month. It came on the heels of two Gay-related murders in the area, and a growing tension between the police and people on Polk Street. The Community United Against Violence reports that they receive more reports against police at Northern Station than any other area of the city.

Tuesday, Jordan sat down with members of the Gay community, merchants, and several of his officers to begin a dialogue. Just over a year ago, Captain Vic Macia initiated the same effort when he came to Mission Station and motivated his officers to create a better working relationship with members of both the Gay and Latino communities.

Using his own methods, Captain Jordan hopes to be as successful at Northern Station. The primary concern of the Gay community has been the sensitivity of the police officers. In what may be a first, Captain Jordan has invited Gay leaders to address police watches. These are the staff briefings before each shift.

Officers will learn firsthand what the options are for homeless Gay youth. They will learn what to look for in working with Gays who are in the area. The Community United Against Violence has made a commitment to work with the Gay community and the police to ease tensions.

Another key problem discussed was the consistency of law enforcement. One officer may turn the other way and not give concern to a problem or a gathering of people. It was mentioned that ten minutes later another officer will appear with a completely different attitude. Jordan said he will work to create an understanding between the people in the Polk area and the police officers.



Police Powwow. Captain Frank Jordan (c.), new head of Northern Station, talks with Officer Paul Seidler (l.) and Bob Ross (r.) at Alice banquet last month. (Photo: Rink)

CUAV's Diane Christensen gave the example of how one officer will let a youth hang out in a doorway, but the next cop to come along the street would demand that the youth move. "This clearly creates confusion," said Christensen, "as to whether the youth legally has to move, and if the youth thinks he doesn't, he complains of police harassment."

The issue of doorways is a sensitive one for the merchants. They don't want loitering in front of their businesses. The police legal department is going to work with Jordan to prepare signs for merchants' windows

stating that loitering is unlawful.

There was a quick understanding that youth, or anybody for that matter, have a right to walk the streets of the city. Jordan said that he is committed to protecting those rights.

The subject of "sweeps" came up at the meeting by a few of the merchants. Police sweeps take place when the cops go in and either move or arrest virtually everybody on the streets. Captain Jordan told the merchants and, later, the *Bay Area Reporter* that there will not be police sweeps in the area.

Jordan said he is going to be out on the streets watching and

observing the community. He also is going to be observing his officers.

On the harder side, Captain Jordan also said there will be a strong enforcement presence in the area. Anti-Gay violence, vandalism, thefts, and robbery will not be tolerated, he said.

A total of approximately fifteen people participated in the meeting. Attending the meeting were members of the Polk Street Merchants' Association, residents and community activists, personnel from the Larkin Street Youth Center, as well as police and members of the Community United Against Violence. ■

Gays and Religion the Top Topic As Parents of Gays Hold Conference

Denver — Several hundred delegates, representing more than 160 parent groups and contacts, attended the third international convention of the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (Parents FLAG) Sept. 28 to Oct. 1.

Denver Mayor Frederico Pena and Dr. Mary Calderone, former medical director of Planned Parenthood of America and former president of the Sex Information and Education Council of the United States, were the featured speakers on Saturday morning, discussing human rights and the knowns/unknowns about homosexuality.

in the medical and scientific communities, respectively. Mayor Pena's presence reaffirmed his proclamation of the week of Sept. 28 as Parents FLAG Week in Denver.

Adele Starr, national president of the Federation of Parents FLAG, stated after the annual meeting of the National Board of Directors, "We will be continuing our religious outreach project for 1984-85. We want to work with the religious community in bringing reconciliation to families — in reaching out to 1 in 4 families that have a Gay family member." ■

Murder of 15-Year-Old Hustler

(Continued from previous page)

The center is not geared for fantasy or glamour. It is geared for survival.

It is geared to make sure a kid eats a few good meals, can see a doctor if needed, and has a place to sleep. The facilities on Larkin Street near Sutter are not fancy, yet they're comfortable. Last Saturday night, over a dozen kids were there and they were all on the winning side of the survival race.

Today the Larkin Street Youth Center is facing a financial crisis. \$180,000, over half of its 1984 budget, was money from the Federal government. That money won't be around in 1985, which is less than three months away. \$68,000 came from the city in 1984 and the Mayor said she will find city money in 1985 to match the 1984 city allocation.

In the meantime, the Larkin Street Youth Center is hoping that a grant, or a series of grants, will come through from organizations such as the San Francisco Foundation, Koret or the Junior League. \$12,000 came to

the center in 1984 from United Way, and it is hoped the United Way will make funds available in 1985.

The start of this program can be credited to the work of the Polk Street Merchants and others in the Polk Street community. Greg Day, a worker at the Larkin Street Center, commented that unlike other areas, they chose to grab on to the problem and go for a solution. Possibly this whole situation could have been "solved" by a few more police sweeps to force the action to another area of town. Instead, the center has gone to the heart of the problem, which is the kid on the street, and it has presented an option.

For the guys on Polk Street who knew him, whether as a trick or as a buddy, Ted Gomez seems to have been a pretty good kid. Police still need information. The number is 553-1145. The street people on Polk say they know the cops are working on this case and they want people to help them get the man who killed their friend. ■

A. White

The Law and You —

California law and the laws of most states stipulate that the person who must give authorization for the burial or cremation of a deceased person is the next of kin. For example: Legally married spouse or divorced spouse with minor children, adult children, father or mother if living, if not, then brothers or sisters over 21 or other living relatives in line such as second or third cousins, etc.

The big problem readily recognized by the gay community is that at the time of their death their companion and gay families may be totally ignored and left completely out of the decision making process. Often, the distant family will order the deceased body to be immediately shipped away to a cold, unfriendly community for burial in a cemetery plot. This action may be totally against the desires or wishes of the person who has died and ignores the feelings of those who really care.

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POLITICS AND POKER

A Pair of Picks In Politics

WAYNE FRIDAY

To say that I agree with everything Harry Britt says or does would be ridiculous. He and I have disagreed on a number of things and some of those differences are well known. The fact remains, that Harry Britt has worked hard for the Gay community since being appointed to the Board of Supervisors by Mayor Feinstein five years ago.

Britt's leadership and ability to work with other members of the Board have brought about major legislation to improve the lives of Gay people — and I also believe that Harry has done much to make straight people, in San Francisco and across the nation, better understand Gay people and Gay politics.

In 1982, Harry wrote a "domestic partners" law to give health benefits to Gay city employees. This was controversial but historic legislation which attracted international attention. Although it was vetoed by the mayor, Britt says that he is still committed to bringing domestic partners about.

To many, the partners legislation is as important as Harvey Milk's Gay rights ordinance, passed in 1978.

Last year, Supervisor Britt looked at the city's AIDS program and realized services were short for our needs. He brought about an increase of \$2.1 million in spending, with the help of Supervisor Jack Molinari.

The year before, Britt got the first city funding for the AIDS Foundation, Shanti Project, and Wards 80 and 5B. One can argue that those things are what he is supposed to be doing — but Britt is indeed getting it done.

Britt has worked for increased CUAV funding over the years, and just last week, sponsored a program, with Molinari, which saw the board authorize

\$100,000 for the CUAV program to open an office on Polk Street. In 1981, Britt persuaded the voters to create the Office of Citizens' Complaints to investigate police misconduct, and he has taken the lead in work to get the police department to shape up its handling of minorities, particularly Gay people.

While the majority of Harry Britt's work at City Hall is on Gay issues, he is also one of the main people on the board who women, minorities, labor, environmentalists and other citizens come to for help on their issues. While Britt is sometimes controversial, he takes more than his share of heat for the work he does for our community, and whether some people disagree with his position on one issue or another, the man never does anything he doesn't honestly believe is in the best interest of our community.

When the new board is sworn in next January, we have to have a Gay person on that body. The polls show Harry is in good shape and while I hope that either Norman, Wharton, or Wahl are elected along with Britt next month, it is important that the Gay and Lesbian community keep Harry Britt and his experience on the Board. I'm voting on Nov. 6 to give Supervisor Harry Britt another term.

★ ★ ★

Tim Wolfred is running for re-election this year to another four-year term on the San Francisco Community College Board. He is another man the Gay and Lesbian community can be proud of. First elected in 1980, Wolfred is the highest ranking openly Gay educator in the nation, and his colleagues elected him President of the College Board in 1984, making him head of a system which enrolls over 70,000 students a year.



Tim Wolfred and Harry Britt, Gay duo running for reelection. (Photo: Rink)

A native of Indiana, Wolfred received his doctorate in clinical psychology in 1971 and moved to the City in 1977 and immediately went to work in the Milk for supervisor campaign and the campaign against the Briggs Initiative (Prop. 6).

He later served for nearly two years as Harry Britt's City Hall Aide and when elected to the College Board, Wolfred became only the second Gay to win a citywide election in San Francisco.

When Tim Wolfred became a member of the College Board, there were no openly Gay administrators and very few openly Gay faculty members. There were few Lesbian/Gay-oriented courses, and no support or counselling services for Gays.

Today, there are four Gay senior administrators, more course offerings, and a community college in the Castro district. Under Dr. Wolfred's leadership, the College Board introduced a statewide policy of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation, which the State Board of Governors adopted for all 70 community colleges. Recently, bereavement leave has been extended to the "domestic partners" of community college employees.

Through unusually good fiscal management, the college district has been able to expand its services and course offerings, even in the face of Governor Deukmejian's budget cuts. Tim Wolfred's work on the Community College Board is something that our community can well be proud of, and he deserves re-election.

★ ★ ★

Millions of dollars are being poured into the campaign over six proposals on the November ballot in California. Democrats are running scared — particularly over the outcome of Propositions 39 and 40.

Prop. 39, the "reapportionment initiative," would end the authority of the Democratic-controlled legislature to set boundaries for the state's 165 legislative and congressional districts. It would transfer such authority to a commission of retired appellate court justices who would be chosen by lot.

If passed, the measure would become effective in the 1986 elections and strategists in both parties agree that if Prop. 39 passes, the GOP would be the

in the window of Sukkers Likers on Polk Street.

Lia Belli's husband Mel is back on TV. The noted barrister hosts a new series every weekend at 11:30 on Channel 44 called "Guilty or Innocent," and the show's premise is a combination of courtroom drama and game show competition. Mel's commentary includes the background of the case, its legal complexities and an explanation of legal parlance. Incidentally, will the Lia Belli "resume mistakes" jokes ever stop?

The San Francisco Fire Fighters endorsed incumbent supervisors Molinari, Britt, Silver, and Kennedy as well as challenger Starr. And the influential Black Leadership Forum, angry over Quentin Kopp's vote against Doris Ward's Minority and Women's Business Enterprise legislation, refused to endorse the conservative supervisor this time, but did endorse Kopp's rival for board president, John Molinari.

Mayor Dianne Feinstein campaigned in Atherton this week for state senate candidate Arlen Gregorio, who's running against Republican Becky Morgan in the peninsula's 11th district. Some are suggesting that Feinstein is building up political chits for a possible 1986 U.S. Senate bid against Alan Cranston.

The Stonewall Gay Democratic Club rounded out their slate card by endorsing Dave Wharton for supervisor last week.

Do the Columbus Day celebration organizers know about this one? Toklas president Sal Rosselli and CRIR boss Tom Peretti are being "honored" by the Gay Italian Americans at the Stanford Court Hotel tomorrow night (Friday, the 12th) at a posh black-tie affair. Tix are only 90,892 lira (that's fifty bucks to us Yankees) and you can call John LoCoco at 752-1751 if you want a table.

I can remember when Ronald Reagan's appearance on most college campuses would set off a riot, yet a new *Time* magazine poll released this week shows that first-time voters, age 18 to 24, prefer the president to Walter Mondale by an astonishing 63 percent to 17 percent. Overall, the poll finds registered voters preferring Reagan 54 percent to 26 percent.

In New York, hundreds of Gays marched from Greenwich Village to the United Nations last week to call attention to the world situation of what organizers called the "invisible minority, oppressed in every country of the world."

Al Casciato, the popular leader of the POA, has become a lieutenant and has resigned his office in the cops' organization. Paul Chignell, the Demo candidate for Marin Assembly against Republican Bill Filante, became the new POA president.

And speaking of cops, police commissioner Jo Daly's new friendship with officer Greg Corralles smacks of a publicity stunt to some. Some Gays I know are scratching their heads at this one.

Mayor Feinstein is hosting a \$150 fundraiser-reception at her home next Friday evening, Oct. 19, for Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver (5:30-7:30; cocktails, etc., 775-4099 for info). And Connie O'Connor, Gael Sapiro and Sal Rosselli are among Toklas members throwing a party for Harry Britt at Steve Walters' home on Tuesday, Oct. 23, (5:30-7:30; no host cocktails, etc., donor's choice of \$15 on up; 641-8965 or 641-8866 for info.)

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GOOD WORK SENATOR MARKS??

August 24, 1984

Dear person,

During my years of involvement with California Human Rights Advocates (CHRA), the lesbian and gay lobbying organization, I worked closely with many State Legislators including Milton Marks. At first, I was enthused to have the support of this personable Republican State Senator. Certainly he is highly skilled in public relations, befriending the press, and campaigning. He has to be. As I rapidly discovered in Sacramento, his public relations skills were compensation for his total lack of legislative skills.

Anyone considering voting for Marks for State Senate should more carefully scrutinize his history in Sacramento. Following are my conclusions as a result of first hand experience.

Marks places his own career goals above the interest of his constituents. For example, in early 1978, California had an exceptionally positive climate for passing AB1, the gay rights bill. Proposition 6, Briggs' anti-gay teachers measure, had just failed decisively. We had a governor who clearly would sign AB1 into law. However, hopes were dashed when Marks forced a Senate version of AB1 to vote in a committee where he did not have enough support to pass it. CHRA repeatedly requested that he wait until votes were confirmed. Quickly Senators and Assemblymakers perceived AB1 as doomed legislation. Why did Marks do this? It was his ill-fated attempt to beat other legislators to the publicity surrounding the bill and grab credit for himself.

Mark's knowledge of gay and lesbian issues was extremely shallow and his presentation of bills was sloppy. During one hearing prior to the vote on Proposition 6, another Senator grilled Marks on the issue of gay teachers. Marks' response (on the record) was that "when the Briggs' initiative passes, it will override the part of AB1 that protects gay teachers." I was astonished at his unwillingness to defend the right of gay people to teach school. And he was willing to publicly demonstrate his belief that the Briggs' initiative would pass — thereby encouraging legislators to support it!

Marks is a political maverick. As a Republican representing a Democratic district and having a mixed voting record, he wields little influence within either party. In fact, he failed to get even one Republican on the committee I mentioned above to vote for his bill. Because of his party affiliation, he has no clout with moderate, swing-vote Democrats. Who gets the last laugh? The Republicans — even a weak Republican elected from a district as strongly Democratic as San Francisco is quite a prize.

Lia Belli is the competent, articulate, savvy Democrat truly in line with the citizens of San Francisco. Please support Lia Belli for State Senate.

Respectfully submitted by Steven Badeau, former Executive Director and legislative advocate for California Human Rights Advocates

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THIS

FRIDAY 12

• **Gay Bachelors and Their Friends:** reception for Pat Norman for Supervisor, Snow Peas, 4072 18th St., S.F., 5 to 7 PM, \$15 to \$50. RSVP 864-2986 or 864-3282.

• **The Dyketones:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6.

• **Riot Squad:** comedy/improvisation, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10:30 PM, \$5.

• **Gay Italian Americans:** Columbus Day 8 black tie dinner, Grand Ballroom, Stanford Court Hotel, 905 California St., S.F., 7 PM, \$50. To honor Sal Rosselli, president, Alice B. Toklas Gay Democratic Club, and Tom Peretti, president, Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights. Proceeds to benefit Pride Center kitchen remodeling. Opera will be sung between dinner courses, and there will be an Italian cabaret after dinner.

• **Fraternal Order of Gays:** Trivial Pursuit, 65 Midcrest Way, S.F., 8 PM. Refreshments served, call 753-6786 for more information.

• **Lesbian Substance Abuse Treatment Services:** open house, 264 Valencia St., S.F., 4 to 6:30 PM. Iris Project of the Center for Education and Mental Health announces the opening of a Lesbian services component offering drug and alcohol treatment.

• **Le Caravelle di Colombo:** music/comedy, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 PM, \$7, \$20 with dinner. A Columbus Day celebration with Tullio Pintor, Elizabeth Enmann, and Tom Ammiano.

• **The Stickband:** music, Q.T., 1312 Polk St., S.F., 9:30 and 11 PM, 12:30 AM, free.

• **Betsy Kagan:** dance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. Bay Area dancer/choreographer combines dance with theater and music.

• **Jane and the Family Jewels:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 9 and 11 PM, \$6. Starring Jane Domacker.

• **Peggy Lee:** music, Venetian Room, Fairmont Hotel, S.F., 9:30 and 11:30 PM, cover.

• **Patience:** stage performance, Presentation Theater, 2350 Turk St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10 and \$12. The Lamplighters in its 22nd production of Gilbert and Sullivan.

• **Little Shop of Horrors:** stage performance, Warfield Theater, 982 Market St., S.F., 8 PM, \$15, \$20, and \$22.50. The New York musical based on Roger Corman's sci-fi cult film.

• **Once is Never Enough:** stage performance, People's Theatre Coalition, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. B, 8 PM, cover. The Asian-American Theater Company opens its 11th season.

• **Jazz:** dance class, Pride Center Auditorium, 890 Hayes St. at Fillmore, S.F., 6 to 7:30 PM, free. Beginning jazz taught by Ron Petersen. Wear gym clothes or loose clothing.

• **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret, 132 Bush, 132 Bush St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10. Starring Ruth Hastings.



Sylvester will celebrate the release of his new

SUNDAY 14

• **Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 4 PM, \$4.

• **From Europe With Love:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6. A cultural odyssey presenting a synthesis of elements from theater, dance, jazz, vaudeville, and poetry, with Idris Ackamoor and Rhodessa Jones.

• **All Women's Champagne Brunch:** for Pat Norman for Supervisor, Women's Inn, 3775 25th St., S.F., 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM, \$10. Call 285-4140 for reservations and more information.

• **Not Just Another Boring Cocktail Party:** fundraiser for Pat Norman for Supervisor, 744 Fell St., S.F., 5:30 to 8 PM, \$10. Sponsored by Diane Christensen, Deborah Friedland, and Suzanne Gautier. Call 864-8310 for more information.

• **Sylvester:** album release party, Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St., S.F., 7 to 10 PM, free. A world premiere performance of Sylvester's new album *M-1015*. Sylvester will perform around 11 PM.

• **Eastbay FrontRunners Club:** run on Hampton Trail in Briones Regional Park, 9:30 AM, 3.6 miles. Call 526-7315 or 527-9167 for more information.

• **San Francisco Hiking Club:** day hike to Point Reyes National Seashore/Limantour Spit, meet at 9:45 AM at the McDonald's on the corner of Haight and Stanyan Sts., S.F. Bring lunch, canteen or bottle of water, towel, and sunscreen.

• **Peggy Pierce:** music, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5, two-drink minimum.

• **Special Fun:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4 to 8 PM, cover. Ethno rock.

• **Little Shop of Horrors:** stage performance, 3 PM, \$13.50, \$15.50, and \$18.50 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Peggy Lee:** music (see Friday listing for details).

• **Once is Never Enough:** stage performance, 3 and 7 PM (see Friday listing for details).

• **All Join Hands:** Gay square dancing, dancers from every club join hands at 2140 Market St., S.F., 5 to 7:30 PM, donation.

SATURDAY 13

• **The Dyketones:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6.

• **Gay Comedy Night:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. With Tom Ammiano, Suzy Berger, Laurie Bushman, and Mario Mondelli.

• **Narratives: Stories in the Tradition of Black Women:** stage performance, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8.50.

• **Dalila Jasmin:** belly dance especially for women, Mama Bear's, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 8 PM, \$5. Women only, call 428-9684 for more information and reservations.

• **Kerrigan Black:** record release party, La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$5. Celebration of the release of *Two Sides*.

• **Fraternal Order of Gays:** video night, 209 Chattanooga, S.F., 7:30 PM. *Murder on the Orient Express* and *Young Frankenstein* will be shown; refreshments will be served. Call 753-6786 for more information.

• **Different Spokes:** Golden Gate Park tour, meet at McLaren Lodge at 10:30 AM, 15 miles.

• **Pamela Brooks:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5.

• **Chick Corea:** music, St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$12.50. With the chamber music group Tashi.

• **Betsy Kagan:** dance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Jane and the Family Jewels:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Little Shop of Horrors:** stage performance, 7 and 10 PM, \$20, \$22.50, and \$25 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Patience:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

WEEK



of his new album, *M-1015*, Sunday at the Troc.

MONDAY 15

- **Reginald McDonald:** music, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6 PM, \$5. With Joyce Imbesi at the piano.
- **Bobbie Norris/Larry Dunlap Trio:** music, Kimball's, 300 Grove St., S.F., 8:30, 10, and 11:30 PM, \$3.50. Album release party for *Hoisted Sails*.
- **Chantilly:** film, The.art.re.grup, 1805 Divisadero, S.F., 8 PM, \$3. Patrick Delabre, a Parisian filmmaker new to San Francisco, will be present for discussion.
- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. Tom Ammiano and Monica Palacios will co-emcee. Performer sign-up at 7:30 PM.



Reginald McDonald sings at Sutter's Mill on Monday night at 6 p.m.

- **Kate Kasten:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. One-woman performance.
- **Tom Ammiano:** comedy, The Other Cafe, 100 Carl St., S.F., 8 to 10 PM. Call 681-0748 for more information.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** day hike to Roberts Park/Mills College, meet at Rolling Pin Donuts, 497 Castro St., S.F., 8:45 AM.
- **The Dots Sisters:** music/comedy, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$4. Three-part a cappella harmony and comedy.
- **Joseph Denney:** music, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. Two-drink minimum.
- **Sweet Will:** playreading, Room 300, Bldg. C, Fort Mason, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$2. Written by Guillermo (William) Ayesa, directed by Kieh Elcker.
- **Little Shop of Horrors:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No pre-registration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 17

- **The People vs. Dan White:** docu-drama, KQED, Channel 9, 8 PM. An updated version of the KQED production aired last November now being shown nationally on PBS.



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BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE

THEATRE RHINO

Developing a Gay Heritage Through the Stage

by Bernard Spunberg

Pandemonium escalates as Theatre Rhinoceros prepares for the Oct. 20 opening of its eighth season. The volume of that pandemonium is a measure of Rhino's growth during its brief lifetime. Under the leadership of its founder, Allan Estes, Rhino gave its first performances in bars, a long-defunct Gay community center, and the Goodman Building. Rhino now operates two theaters, the main stage and the smaller studio, at 2926 16th Street.

"The bigger Rhino gets, the less control the artistic director has over every detail," says Kris Gannon, who took over for Estes after his death. "This may be one of the differences between Allan's leadership and mine. Allan was Theatre Rhino for many years. Thank God he spent the year before he died hiring and training us."

Rhino has grown into a nationally-recognized institution that generates and sustains a rich Gay heritage. Works by talented young playwrights, including C.D. Arnold, Robert Chesley, Adele Prandini, and Harvey Fierstein receive their West Coast and world premiere productions there. Difficult, rarely produced plays by acknowledged masters like Tennessee Williams and William Inge step off the page and onto the stage for which they were written.

"I think it's important for us to address issues in our community that are relevant," Gannon said. "I would love to find and produce plays that deal specifically with the Lesbian and Gay communities interrelating. You find Gay plays with straight women and Lesbian plays with no men, but to try to find plays about us dealing with each other — I would love to find them."

The theater has sponsored acting classes, a playwrights' workshop, semi-staged readings of plays in progress, and a late night avant garde series called *On the Edge*. Rhino's subscription sales swelled from 825 for '82-'83 season to 2,400 for '83-'84. For '84-'85, sales al-

ready exceed 2,400. Obviously, Theatre Rhinoceros fulfills a need.

"We're always looking for new private foundations to help us financially," Gannon said. "Most of them are notoriously homophobic. We've targeted 15 corporations as possible sources, and we're also submitting a grant proposal to the San Francisco Foundation for funds to hire a consultant to help with national mailing. We have developed the Lesbian Playwriting Contest, a playwrights' workshop, the AIDS show, and I feel that the Gay and Lesbian community across the nation needs to support us. We're developing a literature, we're developing a heritage."

Estes directed Theatre Rhino until he died of AIDS in May 1984. At that time, Gannon rose from administrative director to interim artistic director. Rhino's board of directors removed the "interim" from Gannon's job title shortly thereafter.

After earning a degree in theater arts from a small college in Iowa, Gannon, now 32, toured the Midwest as a singer for five years. Earlier experiences suggest she may have been a bit of a Shirley Temple.

"My mother tells a story about me getting up in front of my kindergarten class and singing 'I'm Just a Girl Who Can't Say No,'" she says. "I was involved with music and theater all through school. I came to San Francisco in 1979 to record an album, and that was my introduction to the Bay Area."



Kris Gannon, executive director of Theatre Rhino, makes an appeal for funds. (Photo: P. Cacciotti)

"My first job in theater here was as publicist for SF Rep. In 1981, I was asked to be Michelle Truffaut's assistant director for Theatre Rhino's production of Jane Chambers' *My Blue Heaven*. I fell in love with Rhino, and Rhino fell in love with me. I went to work as the theater's house manager, and then moved over to box office manager. Within three or four months after *My Blue Heaven*, Rhino's administrative director left, and I took over that job.

"Now that I am artistic director, I am the theater's bottom line. I take responsibility for planning the season — finding the scripts, choosing the directors. I am involved with fundraising both within the community and from government agencies and corporations.

"To me, the ultimate Theatre Rhinoceros season combines the grand and extravagant with the intimate and personal. Above all, we need integrity — style, characterization, movement, climax — all the qualities that are important in the theater. I don't want to zap people right off the bat, so we're starting the '84-'85 season with a fairly light bill of two one-acts."

The *Quintessential Image*, by Jane Chambers, and *After Eleven*, by Victor Bumbalo, open the new season and run through Dec. 2. Because the Chambers piece depicts the taping of a TV show, and the Bumbalo is a sit-com style comedy, the double bill will be staged as though before a studio audience. Cynthia Wilson, director of *Quintessential Image*, is determined to someday direct *Rites*, a play by British Lesbian socialist Maureen Duffy. For now, though, Wilson is more than happy to direct the Chambers play.

"My production of *Quintessential Image* will be painfully hilarious," she says. "The central character is a closeted woman talk show host who's sort of a cross between Dinah Shore and Joan Rivers. She's hyper-feminine and very bright — it would be great to cast a man in this part, to tell you the truth. The play depicts the taping of an interview of a famous photographer. The photographer is an upfront Lesbian with whom the talk show host has been secretly in love for years."

any deep philosophical statement being made. I want the audience to sit back and enjoy an evening of laughs."

Gannon expresses enthusiasm for the remainder of the '84-'85 season.

"*The Concubine at the Feast*, by Paul August Cacciotti, will run from Dec. 15 through Jan. 27. The play depicts interaction among family members both Gay and straight. I look forward to directing it.

"*Either Broadway Baby*, by C.D. Arnold, or *Strictly a Formality*, by Thomas F. Silber and Roy Conboy, Jr., will run from Feb. 9 to March 24. Both plays are psychological dramas.

"Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* will be great fun. Leland Moss has proven himself a director with a personal vision and the strength to impose it. We're currently talking to some of the most imaginative designers in the Bay Area. The production will run from April 6 to May 19.

"The winner of our National Lesbian Playwriting Contest will run from June 2 to July 14. This contest has brought in almost a hundred scripts from around the country.

"*Night Sweat*, by Robert Chesley, will run from Aug. 24 to Oct. 6. It's a black, black comedy. Chuck Solomon will direct it, and I think it's going to be visually thrilling. It deals with AIDS and death in a scary, threatening way. Some people may be offended. As a season closer, I think it's going to be dynamite."



Harvey Sacks (l.) and Keno Rider in *Bad Drama*. (Photo: Mark I. Chester)

Troy Donahue and Herve Villechaize. Speaking in a soft drawl, Turney describes his current assignment at Rhino.

"*After Eleven* depicts efforts by long-time lovers to get their relationship out of a boring rut," he says. "Against his lover's wishes, one of the men invites a hustler over to spice things up. *After Eleven* is not a play to analyze. I don't think there's

Chuck Solomon, programming director for the studio, explains that the relatively small space begins its formal season in January. After the current run of the historical melodrama *The Captive* ends, the studio will present a program of two one-acts. Jay B. Laws' *Real Life Romance* and J.H. Ross' *Finder's Keepers* will be directed by Allan Herman. Both plays deal with love lost and recovered. ■



The Homosexual, or The Difficulty of Expressing Oneself and The Four Twins were presented by Copi last year at Rhino. (Photo: Mark I. Chester)

STAGE

B Movie B-Comes B Musical

by Steve Warren

The Little Shop of Horrors is, with the addition of 16 appropriately forgettable songs, the perfect stage equivalent of its cinematic source — a "B" musical based on a "B" movie.

I could bitch for days about the tacky set, stereotypical characters, and lack of stars; but that would show I had missed the point. The movie had even less going for it (although one of the nobodies in the cast was Jack Nicholson, almost a decade before his "overnight success" in *Easy Rider*), yet its cult still packs theaters and swells TV ratings.

The show retains the film's plot about a nerdy flower shop clerk who becomes famous for discovering a "strange and interesting plant" which, he learns to his dismay, lives on human blood. This is embellished for the stage with satirical nostalgia from the '50s and '60s, including a doo wop girl group and a dizzy Jayne Mansfield clone who dreams of living in a subdivision: "A matchbox of our own . . . a fence of real chain link . . ."

If there's a star in *The Little Shop of Horrors* it's the incredible "Audrey II," who will easily sweep all awards for Best Performance by a Plant. Employing technical trickery, some of which you may not be able to figure out, as she grows to different sizes and guises, this Muppet resembles the shark of *Jaws* with the personality of the evil *Gremlins*, the appetite of *Divine*, and the gourmanderie of *Dracula*.

She Gives You Fever

by Michael Lasky

She sits serenely on a stool amidst the clutter of a rehearsal set up in the Fairmont Hotel's Venetian Room. Her long, flowing Lady Godiva blonde hair streams down her white silk pants suit. Her eyes are covered with diamond-studded sunglasses.

She is clearly in control, and any expected last-minute pandemonium is erased when she speaks. She knows exactly what she wants from the lighting man and from the musicians. It is the day before the opening night of a two-week engagement that will see her perform twice nightly through this Sunday.

And if you weren't able to identify her right off by sight, when she begins to run through her songs you know instantly it's either some enchantress who's giving you "Fever" or it's Miss Peggy Lee.

Maybe it's both.

The following evening, together with a pinspot and a few abracadabra waves of her butterly sleeved silk gown, the effect is spine-tingling.

And when she sings "Is That All There Is?" which won her a Grammy, or "Love Me or Leave Me," the Venetian Room suddenly becomes hushed. Peggy Lee warbles her intoxicating spell over 450 lucky individuals. Even the waiters, who have heard them all, stop in their tracks.

Yes, Peggy Lee must be an enchantress, or just a helluva talented lady. Probably both. ■

Peggy Lee
Venetian Room, Fairmont Hotel
Through October 14; 772-5163

Jane's Jewels

by Bernard Spunberg

If they ever decide to give her a real co-star, Harvey Fierstein would be great as Seymour. Ken Ward is okay, but tends to blend too easily into the background. Eddy Alyson is delightful as Audrey, the plant's namesake. She's often hard to understand when she speaks, but reveals surprisingly powerful pipes in a couple of songs.

The supporting cast is on a "B" level — adequate but no nascent Nicholsons here.

What was outrageous in 1960 before the term "black comedy" had been coined is tame today, but the camp appeal of the original *Little Shop of Horrors* has been effectively adapted to its new medium. You'll enjoy it, but I don't know if you'll feel that it gives you up-to-\$22.50 worth of entertainment. ■

The Little Shop of Horrors
Warfield Theatre
Through October 28; 893-BASS



Cultural deprivation is a pitiful thing. At long last, though, I am a whole human being. I have seen Jane Dornacker. Now onstage at the glamorous new Club Paradiso in the Valencia Rose, Jane and the Family Jewels includes lots of material with which Jane

junkies may already be familiar. Well, tough titties. It's new if you've never seen it. And anyway, you may not have many more opportunities to see this stuff close up. Jane has created Family Jewels as a package to take to New York. And when that happens — well, just promise me you'll stay the same sweet, wholesome girl you are now, Jane. On second thought, you don't need to promise me anything. I think you'll always be just you.

That's her real secret, you know. Oh, sure Jane does lots of crazy things. I saw her hike up her dress, attach a jalapeno pepper and two onions to her crotch, and then pose alluringly for oncoming traffic on Valencia Street. Her current show also includes slickly produced videotapes of Gunila Gundoric's facial exercise show, a snack food cooking program featuring recipes guaranteed to harden that outer layer of mucus, as well as the continuing saga entitled "All My Ova."

Through it all — through less than kind remarks about a certain columnist for the *Chronicle*, a series of songs dealing with everybody's favorite subject, sex, and even through the clever narrative that holds the show together — Jane Dornacker lets her own real self shine through. She's hilarious, but she's much more than a joke machine. Her humor works because it flows directly from her perception of the world. Dornacker needs no refinement and no varnish. She's a human being. Her vulnerability shows. And for that, I love her. ■

Jane and the Family Jewels
Valencia Rose
Through October 31; 863-3863



Jane Dornacker and her family fur.

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EVEN IN BABYLON

Stars They Come and Go

JOHN F. KARR

I can't think of a more unlikely trio than Mary Martin, Holly Near, and Jeanie Tracy. No, they aren't appearing together at last for an evening of Broadway disco agitprop, but each one is doing her thing this month, and it's never too late to be up to date. I'm covering a lot of bases here.

MARY AND ME

Mary Martin called a press conference, and when MM calls a PC, everyone flies. She had something important to say. Her well-intentioned publicist, however, booked one of the city's busiest restaurants for a noon conference, and the din *in extremis* precluded the usual round table conversation. So MM table-hopped, and had just lit next to me when lunch was served. Result? A twenty-minute luncheon *intime* with Mary Martin. Tell that to your fairy friends.

The luncheon was scheduled so Mary could tell us about the benefit gala she's presiding over and starring in, *Mary Martin at Davies Hall — An Evening With Her Friends*. Her friends include former co-stars John Raitt and Robert Preston, plus



Mary Martin in her sex goddess days.

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"Cole Porter said he'd written Kate for me. But I'd just come in from two years of touring Annie and sounded like Tallulah Bankhead."

It was a while before she got her high notes back, so she missed Cole's show. Her consolation prize was *South Pacific*.

SOUTH AMERICA, TAKE IT AWAY

I don't know which niche Gay men slip Holly Near into when they think of her — if they think of her at all — but it appears to be a niche that dispenses with her. What a mistake.

It's true Holly hasn't courted either popular success or the mainstream Gay audience. She's been criticized by the radical Lesbian press and largely ignored by the Gay press. And while she hasn't stressed being Gay, she hasn't disavowed it. She's a humanist, embracing many groups, cultures, identities. It's been interesting to watch her vision encompass increasingly larger portions of the world and its people. She's had a long how to, but how she's done it will give you no regrets.

Now will her new album. It's an unusual collaborative event between Holly and Inti-Illimani, the South American traditionalist/activist group which has been in exile from Chile since the 1972 coup.

Recorded live at concerts in the Bay Area, the record's clear production glows with the wondrous native instruments of Inti-Illimani. Guitars, flutes, and pan-pipes, yes, but also zamponas, huairo, and quena. And that's just what they sound like, too.

Holly sings in English and Spanish, the men in Spanish. The music is international, including Andean folk, swaggering protest, a gorgeous "Gracias a la Vida," and Holly's song, "Gypsy." It's musically reminiscent of "Those Were the Days," yet so much more theatrical, meaningful.

Holly's singing is splendid, sometimes strong and brassy, other times wispy as she darts in ornaments. Especially entrancing is the song they share. It's marvelous how lightly the eight voices combine, with no more



Holly Near (r.) and the Inti-Illimani.

weight than the sun shining on your heart.

The album is titled *Sing To Me The Dream*, and that's what it does.

BULLET ON THE CHARTS

I was surprised to find Jeanie Tracy's new 12-inch single on my desk. Me, review disco? Girl, you *dance* to it; isn't that enough?

But I was glad I played it. What a production number!

The song is "Time Bomb," and it's one of those rare disco numbers that uses the relentless beat for dramatic purpose. Like "I Will Survive," you cannot imagine "Time Bomb" being done any other way. It has a smash finale, too. The climactic explosion — with backups by Martha Washington and Sylvester — is dancer's dementia, a swirling barrage of overdubbed vocals.

Excited by the song, I called

Jeanie, who was herself excited by her third consecutive win on television's *Star Search*. Surprisingly, she confessed to being insecure about recording "Time Bomb."

"I couldn't put my finger on it. I wondered if I could be that creative in it," she explained.

Is the tight disco format restrictive to a singer, especially one like Jeanie with roots in gospel, which makes room for whatever a singer wants to do?

She agreed it was hard, but she's young and eager. "You can fit it in," she said.

Her television exposure and nationally-breaking single are causing some upheaval. When her manager asked, "What are you doing to my life?" Jeanie's answer came right out of the whirlwind of incipient fame. "What am I doing to my life?" she wondered.

Singing everybody up onto their feet, that's what. ■



Jeanie Tracy

Hepatitis Support Group

In San Francisco 70 to 80 percent of Gay men have had Hepatitis B, and most without any noticeable symptoms. Roughly 5 to 10 percent of these men go on to having chronic Hepatitis B. People with chronic Hepatitis B and asymptomatic carriers face many problems and hardships.

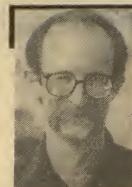
To help people with chronic Hepatitis adapt their lives to living with Hepatitis, a self-help support group is forming.

The purpose of the Hepatitis support group is to provide emotional support, to aid one another in changing lifestyles when necessary, and to increase one's knowledge of Hepatitis and its treatments.

The Hepatitis support group meets on the first and third Thursday evening of each month from 8 to 9:30 p.m.

The next several meetings will be at 381 Jersey St. (off Castro between 24th and 25th Streets).

For more information call Bruce Fairbairn at 647-7990. ■



TALES OF TESSI TURA

Night Frights

GEORGE HEYMONT

A full moon can foster strange behavior. Moods change suddenly, the heartbeat quickens, and a sense of daring takes over one's soul. Ask any policeman what work is like on such nights and he won't hesitate to tell you that people, quite simply, go bananas.

Recent full moons have been no exception. In fact, on one such evening I dined with a Gay man who was so sure of himself he boasted of having dared some trivia queen to prove to him that the legendary Beatrice Lillie was still alive. The stakes at hand? A blow job accompanied by a vintage recording of "Mad Dogs and Englishmen."

Stranger things happen in opera.

DOWNSTAGE HUMPING

As an art form, opera embraces all types of kinky behavior, and several brief moments in Zemlinsky's *Eine Florentinesche Tragödie* proved to be so daringly sexual audiences in Santa Fe, New Mexico, had to pinch themselves to make sure they weren't watching a straight S&M fuck film with good music. Based on a fatal love triangle devised by Oscar Wilde, this tawdry little one-acter pits the philandering Guido, son of the Duke of Florence, against Simone — a merchant who arrives on the scene shortly after

with lots of good mood music accompanying Guido's pelvic thrusts.

But what happens to the woman who watches someone throttle the lover who was just inside her body? She can either be horrified and freak out over the experience, or she can get off on it. All overtones of class struggle aside, watching her husband strangle Guido to death apparently did wonders for Bianca's sense of foreplay — especially since the action involved Simone demonstrating his ample strength and proving his love for her. Turetsky's gasps

... the production soon deteriorated into a very hokey, 1950s-ish operatic affair . . .

the audience has witnessed Guido humping Simone's wife, Bianca. The program notes insist Simone challenges his rival to a duel and kills Guido, after which, as if transfigured by the great deed, Bianca sinks into his arms and they confess their mutual love.

Transfigured? No. Aroused? Most definitely.

Perhaps some women become sexually excited by violence, which would explain why, under Bliss Hebert's insightful direction, a fascinatingly perverse twist was added to the proceedings. This performance certainly got off to a rip-roaring start when tenor John Stewart and mezzo-soprano Lisa Turetsky engaged in some pretty articulate body-smashing on the downstage kitchen table. Zemlinsky's score packed a wallop,

and cries of horror soon turned to heavy panting and, through the dim lighting, Hebert left little doubt that sweet Bianca was stroking herself in all the right places. Perhaps this is why a member of the Moral Majority filed suit against Turetsky, who went nude in the final moments of the opera.

Vocally, *Eine Florentinesche Tragödie* proved to be a showpiece for basso Edward Crafts, who turned in a stunning performance as Simone. John Crosby conducted with a strong sense of passion and urgency. I was particularly impressed by Nancy Thun's ominously brooding set, and Steven B. Feldman's decorative costumes. A job well done.

SWEET DREAMS

Alas, the San Francisco Opera's revival of *La Sonnambula*

bula could not offer the audience much in the way of sexual excitement — although it would have been nice if the production had offered any excitement at all. Or is that asking too much from Terry McEwen these days? A recent discussion with several chorus members revealed their severe embarrassment over plummeting production standards at the San Francisco Opera and, on the basis of viewing one-third of that revered organization's 1984 fall season, I could easily list half a dozen American opera companies which are producing more stage-worthy, more exciting, and better quality work product on a more consistent basis. The San Francisco Opera, which was once so highly esteemed for its artistic standards, has fallen on more than just financially hard times.

The scenery — borrowed from the Seattle Opera — was a tasteful recreation of the sets designed for the opera's world premiere in 1831. Unfortunately, like some of its brethren in the bel canto repertoire, Bellini's *La Sonnambula* is an incredibly stupid opera which requires superb singing if any performance is expected to overcome the plot's basic Tyrolean insipidity. With an exciting cast onstage, all the sleepwalking shenanigans should be performed by the soprano. In this instance, however, the chorus was noticeably exhausted, bored to tears, and engaged in a little sleep-walking of its own. The audience soon followed suit.

Largely due to Nicola Rescigno's sluggish tempos and Brian Macdonald's lackluster direction, the production soon deteriorated into a very hokey, 1950s-ish operatic affair which was only occasionally enlivened by the sheer magnitude of Sam Ramsey's voice — the basso cantante made a long-overdue return to the San Francisco Opera as Count Rodolfo. Francesca Howe's Lisa, and James Patterson's Alessio, were solidly prepared. Dennis O'Neil's Elvino was adequate. Although the Amina, Frederica von Stade, may be one of America's most appealing and technically competent mezzo-sopranos, she proved to be serenely saccharine and sweetly unexciting in the title role. The triumph of white bread over bel canto.

Cruel gruel for operatic fuel. In the immortal words of Oliver Twist: "Please, sir — I want some more!" ■



Sam Ramey's appearance as Count Rodolfo helped add some life to Bellini's *La Sonnambula*.

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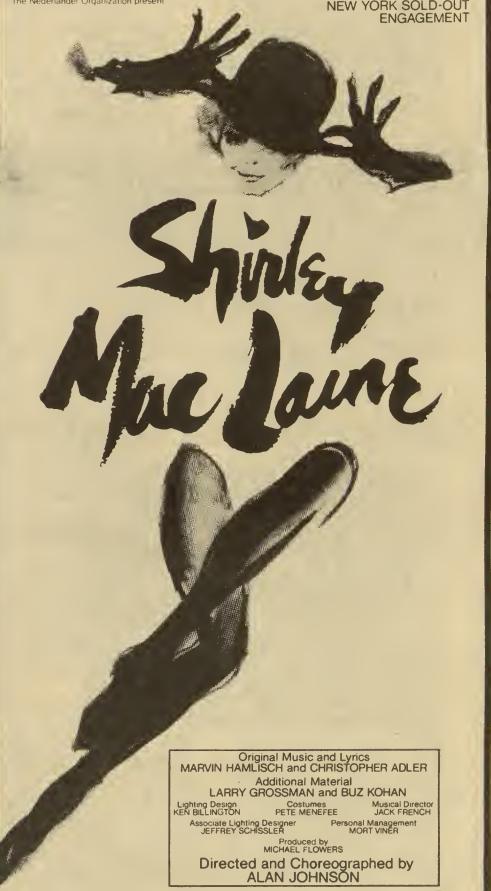


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BACK TO BATON

New and Forever Unusual

PHILIP CAMPBELL

Last week, while listening to a performance by Mack McCray and the San Francisco Symphony of Sergei Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2, I was struck by the enduring "modernity" of the composer's once shocking radicalism.

The jagged, jarring music, so bold and distinctly original, polarized audiences at its premiere and still has the power to disturb and delight some 70 years later.

Prokofiev could write well in many genres, and his more conventional works earned him great popularity, but it is his wonderful streak of "bad boy" insouciance that will make him

must be willing to take a chance on something new and, even more importantly, promoters must give writers a forum where their music can be heard.

Traditionally, symphony audiences are fairly conservative. The environment of a symphony hall is rather formal, and the price of attendance often prohibits younger, more open minds from taking a chance. Still, the symphony is a venerable institution, well aware of the need for fresh, original voices to ensure its survival, and San Francisco is a city founded on boldness and daring. Therefore, it's hardly surprising that our symphony takes special



Glenn Branca

immortal.

Unbelievable as it may seem today, Bizet's "Carmen" was once a scandal and Igor Stravinsky's seminal "The Rite of Spring" created a riot at its opening. The fact remains, however, that in spite of public acceptance after years of gradually increasing popularity, both works will always be unusual. Unusual because their composers took risks, and they had the talent and genius to make good on their intentions.

For serious music to survive there must always be experimenters. That doesn't just mean musicians, either. Audiences

pains to encourage and further the cause of modern music.

Starting Oct. 19, for the fifth consecutive year, the San Francisco Symphony is presenting its successful "New and Unusual Music" series at Davies Hall and the Japan Center Theatre.

The series has steadily grown in popularity over the past years due to its good time atmosphere of chic and informality, but most importantly, because the emphasis has always been on quality music making and truly avant garde composition. There have been hits and misses, to be sure, but this is one festival that is never boring.

FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

A Joke of Destiny

Italian Espresso
Comedy

When the Italian Minister of the Interior gets trapped with his driver in an impregnable terrorist-proof supercar, and a politically motivated member of Parliament (Ugo Tognazzi) finds it in front of his villa, Lina Wertmüller's tightly-paced comedy, *A Joke of Destiny*, takes off on its double-barreled assault of Italian politics and mores.

The metaphor of the politician locked in a hermetically sealed automobile cum sarcophagus may have significantly more relevance in Italy, but is nevertheless a universally comedic concept. What happens around the car after it is pushed by some policeman into Tognazzi's garage is what sustains our

laughter.

For between the fruitless attempts to free the minister, we meet the strange household of Tognazzi's — his pot-smoking

grandmother, his 15-year-old sex-crazed daughter who handcuffs herself to a policeman and urges him to "deflower me," his

(Continued on next page)



A scene from Lina Wertmüller's *A Joke of Destiny*.

FILM CLIPS

Teachers

Not So High School

Ostensibly, *Teachers* is about the everyday insanity at a large inner-city high school in an unnamed big city. There are killings, abortions, armed guards in the hallway, certifiably insane teachers being carted off, crazy students stealing teachers' cars — just about everything but learning. It's also Monday morning.

How believable John F. Kennedy High School is depends on where and when you went to high school. For dramatic reasons, much of the shrill maelstrom that occurs is composed over a short period, which unfortunately taxes our liberal allowance of credibility.

The comedy-drama directed by Arthur Hiller (*Love Story*, *Making Love*) centers around the teachers, not the students, but that doesn't stop the producers from inserting the now obligatory and intrusive MTV soundtrack.

The school is being sued by a former student who was allowed to graduate, but who cannot read or write.

The school board is more embarrassed than the teachers, since the suit reveals the standard operating procedure the board has condoned. A fifteen-year veteran teacher (Nick Nolte) is no longer idealistic about accomplishing anything in his work, since the policy has defeated all his efforts. When a former student, now an

attorney (Jobeth Williams), comes to take teacher depositions in the case, the teachers are coached into not telling the whole truth.

Nolte refrains from lying, much to the chagrin of the beleaguered Vice Principal (Judd Hirsch), one of Nolte's best friends. Hirsch is a company man who doesn't want to fight the system even though it is contrary to his beliefs.

While much of the picture works in its brutal annihilation of the American school system, just as much does not. Some of the dialogue is stagy and for effect, some of the acting is overwrought, and numerous situations feel like setups for cheap jokes.

Nolte is appealing as the outspoken teacher. Lee Grant is convincing as the bossy school board director. Richard Mulligan is perfect in his portrayal of the insane substitute teacher who just walks in and takes over a class in a Lincoln costume. But Jobeth Williams seems miscast as the go-get-'em lawyer.

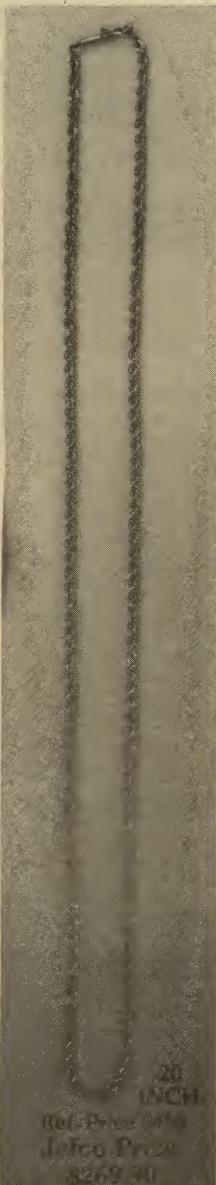
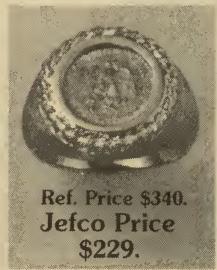
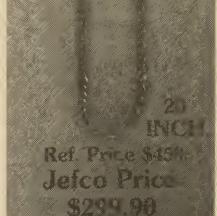
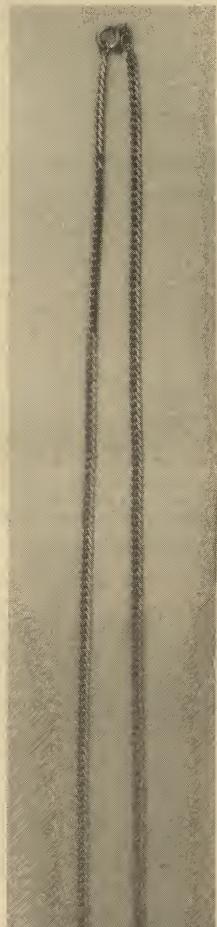
Teachers has a noble cause, and while it shows the dreadful conditions urban schools endure, it does not offer a cure. It is a cynical, sour grapes film that, like the school it depicts, does not teach us anything.

(Alexandria) M. Lasky



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One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Thursday, October 11: (Strand) Jean Genet's only film, *Un Chant d'Amour*, is worth seeing. It's as steamy as his novels, and concerns one of his favorite topics, prison sex. With steamy films by Kenneth Anger, including *Scorpio Rising* and *Puce*.

Saturday, October 13: (UC Theatre) Fassbinder's *Alexanderplatz*, the great Gay director's last work, Parts 1, 2, and 3. Made for television in 13 parts, this epic concerns the maturity of Germany and the maturity of a small-time hood starting in the 1920s as he loves whores and gets close to men.

Sunday, October 14: (UC Theatre) *Alexanderplatz*, Parts 4 and 5.

Tuesday, October 16: (Strand) *Making Love*. An upper class all the way love story from the maker of *Love Story*. It's a real three-banky movie about a woman who must deal with her husband's discovery that he loves her but is Gay. Something for Everyone is a delicious black comedy with a delicious Michael York screwing guys and gals to get to the top. Tim. An early Mel Gibson is a retarded young hunk who marries an older woman. Good story, acting, and hunk.

(Continued from previous page)
neglected wife who meets her revolutionary lover in the catacombs beneath the mansion, and a garrulous secretary who was an A-plus student of the Evelyn Wood Speed Talking School.

As efforts to extricate the men from the car get more frantic, there is further chaotic breakdown within the house. Are we all trapped literally and figuratively in our own self-made jail cells? Wertmuller seems to ask. Perhaps. Certainly not in one as perceptive and funny as the ones shown here.

Tognazzi, best remembered as Georges, the patient cabaret owner in *La Cage aux Folles*, proves again that he has perfect timing, subtle gestures and grimaces that make him one of the more enjoyable actors to watch. The casting of the other roles is also splendid, so that the actors need say nothing and we will laugh.

Except for a jarring, inchoate, non sequitur ending, *A Joke of Destiny* is as hot and foamy as a cup of espresso.

(Mercury) M. Lasky

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FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

Cal

No Blarney

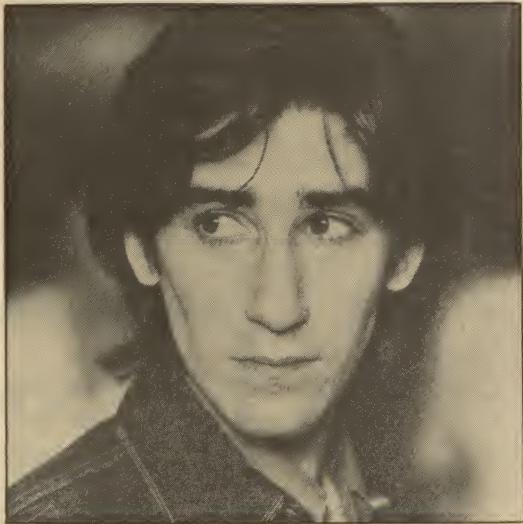
Cal brings the conflict in Northern Ireland down to a human level. It will be an eye-opener for Americans who believe only Third World countries have guns, tanks, and roadblocks as everyday sights in city streets.

The 19-year-old title character depicts the violence, but can't seem to avoid being both a perpetrator and a victim. His working class — when they can get work — family is part of the Catholic minority, and Cal is a reluctant recruit in the Irish Republican Army.

One of the local men speaks for many when he says, "I ain't got nothin' against Catholics as such. It's their religion I hate." If everyone could be so open about their bigotry, we might make some progress toward curing it.

As played by impressive newcomer John Lynch, Cal is not exactly handsome but sexy nonetheless. He's attracted to older women — at least one older woman.

Marcella (Helen Mirren) is also Catholic, but she's a widow and lives with the Protestant family of her late husband. Circumstances throw her together with Cal until nature can take its course, despite a guilty secret he's keeping from her. Their romance is a bit contrived, but it's only one aspect of the generally realistic story and



Unholy Cal — John Lynch plays a young man in trouble in *Cal*.

works well enough in context.

Mark Knopfler's folksy score is even better than the one he did last year for *Local Hero*. *Cal* is the first feature by

director Pat O'Connor and marks him as a talent to watch. Include this *Cal* on your movie diet. ■

(Lumiere)

S. Warren

Country

E I E I No!

Country comes across like well-intentioned White liberals who invite Blacks to their chic homes to prove just how liberal they are. It reeks of the "some of my best friends are . . ."

Produced by Jessica Lange, Country tries to make political points, but then steers clear of any political explanations that would show just how the farmers depicted in the film got in the predicament in which they are embroiled.

The story is your basic "give me the money or I'll take the deed to your

ranch." The villain in the deal is the FMHA, a government-run loan program to small farmers, which decides to call in their loans even though another branch of the government is responsible — along with bad weather — for the midwestern farmers' plight of poverty.

The government is portrayed as willfully malicious — there's a picture of Reagan on the wall of the FMHA office that rings of Big Brother. But for dramatic license, this is okay. What's not right is to depict all men as wimpy so Jessica Lange can seem all the stronger.

When foreclosure on Lange's farm begins, husband Sam Shepard, who up to this point walked tall, falls apart.

Lange's grandfather (Wilford Brimley) stays in the background; another man kills himself. It's up to mighty mother Lange to save the day, but by then it's too late in the film for us to care.

Movies about rural life are so relentlessly bleak and limply paced, it makes you pray for the sight of concrete and skyscrapers in the hopes of quickening the action.

The goody-goody ending attached to the credit scroll feels like an artistic rip-off.

So, for all the fine production work, good intentions, and professional acting, *Country* is a lousy harvest. ■

(Regency II)

M. Lasky

Old Enough

A Natural

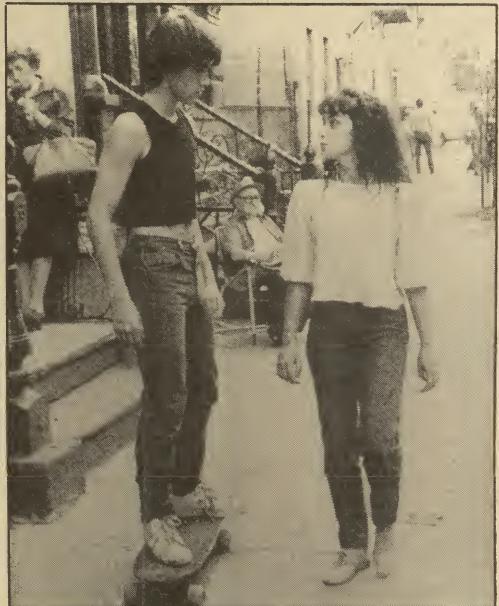
At "almost 11 1/4," Lonnie (Sarah Boyd) is becoming aware of new things every day. Three words from gorgeous Neill Barry (star of Robert Altman's upcoming *O.C. & Stiggs*), who looks like this year's Matt Dillon, and she's as hopelessly in love as I would be if he spoke to me.

She's also infatuated with his younger sister Karen (Rainbow Harvest), who is 14. Their friendship brings Lonnie an awareness of another social stratum and a religion (Catholicism) her bourgeois parents have sheltered her from, in a part of New York where the other side of the tracks is right around the corner.

Old Enough is the first feature by Marisa Silver (writer-director) and Diana Silver (producer), daughters of filmmakers Rafael and Joan Micklin Silver. They've inherited their parents' ability to make a good looking movie (cinematographer Michael Ballhaus shot several of Fassbinder's films) on a low budget, and their interest in telling small, personal stories.

Sex is not the principal concern of the young heroines, and Lesbianism doesn't enter their minds — even when Karen taunts Lonnie as being "queer" for getting too close. It's all innocent when they dance together, when Karen invites Lonnie to "Take an overnight at my house," and even when Karen warns her brother about Lonnie: "Leave her alone, she's mine!"

A musical score of simple, monotone



Oh, Brother — Rainbow Harvest threatens to knock big brother Neill Barry off his skateboard if he doesn't leave her girlfriend alone, in a scene from *Old Enough*.

nous riffs is the weakest thing about *Old Enough*, one of the few films about growing up to use all natural in-

gredients. ■

(Cannery)

S. Warren

Are you epistemologically correct?

BAY AREA REPORTER

SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

Rosemary Comire: Olympic Bodybuilder

**Free Weights and Karate:
Developing Body — and Soul**

by Paul Trefzger

I spoke to Rosemary Comire at her place of employment, Artemis Cafe, on blossoming Valencia Street. She made a place for herself in Gay history at the Gay Games '82 as a lightweight gold medalist in bodybuilding. She also played on the Women's Eight Ball team which came away with a gold medal. "After the Games we were tired, but as a team we were already talking about the next games," she said.

In the San Francisco Open Bodybuilding Championships she finished second and won for Best Poser, then served as a judge. I asked if she had help getting to that level. "I'm pretty much self-trained," she said. "I read and studied on my own. I did have help with the compulsory poses and I would do the same for anyone else who was interested."

As for the '86 Games, Comire is undecided as to whether to compete. She is sure she will coach. "One of the main things that's important to me is to keep the 'family' together," she said. She explained this consisted of the two women and four men who competed in '82.

Comire has been weight training at Shape Up on Market Street but she anxiously turned the conversation to her current obsession, Karate. Karate "really seems to have gone to the forefront of my fitness program. I just started six months ago. Originally, it was to augment my bodybuilding, a means of achieving balance and flexibility," she said.

"The more I'm around it, the more I appreciate it on its own merits . . . for emotional, spiritual, and physical development. 'Action' is a part of it. It's difficult to put into words. The

it's a school that's founded on love. There's a quest for development that all of our individual efforts and our unity intensifies. The feeling that we have for each other, the sensei helps us toward our goal. What's the expression, 'strength in numbers?' And then the caring about how everyone else is doing."

Rosemary formerly took part in and then taught physical education classes and said, "I'm glad to see that there is a de-emphasis on competition and an emphasis on caring and love."

Comire was born on April 17, 1952, in Laconia, New Hampshire. She was always very active in neighborhood athletics. "Both of my parents were athletes. Athletics was never frowned upon for anyone. Actually, it was our town's basic industry." Laconia is located on Lake Winnipesaukee. Rosemary took part in all water sports and tourist winter sports.

"I was involved in everything. As a child my parents started me out with a small bat and a large ball and as I grew they'd get me larger bats and smaller balls. There was field and track every day, swimming and tennis."

Her father, she said, "Played the big three" — basketball, baseball, and football." Her



Rosemary Comire works out at Shape Up. (Photo: Rink)

to San Francisco. "I had done some traveling around. I had been to the city once before and was amazed at the beauty of it and wanted to stay but I had a contract for another term so I went back."

In San Francisco in 1979 she "definitely missed" the winter sports. "I didn't ski for a cou-

training."

Comire fell in love with free weights. "You really can't compare it to aerobics or running as a form of self-expression. I like the fact that you can do it alone. You don't have to go find five or six people to join you." A major advantage to her has been the friends she's made through the

larly important the nearer you get to competition . . . higher concentration and increased intensity." As to the standard "three sets, ten to fifteen reps" she said, "No, I wouldn't advocate that. Sets and reps vary according to the body part and its needs."

I asked Rosemary if she's become a nut on bodybuilding and is pushing her friends to join her. A negative. "If someone voices an interest, I become very excited. It's a wonderful thing for a woman to be able to change the shape of your body and to increase your self-confidence. I've seen it in myself and I've seen it in other women."

Anyone interested in competing in the Gay Games or just joining in working out can feel free to contact Rosemary or the physique chairperson, Mary Figliulo at the Pride Center, (415) 863-9890.

'It's mental as well . . . a link between the mind, body, and spirit.'

— Rosemary Comire

ple of years. Now I go up to Tahoe for recreational skiing." She didn't become involved in any organized sports here until the Gay Games. "We weight-trained in college in conjunction with other sports. There were three, four months of indoor

sport, particularly the Physique Team. "It's fun fundraising together."

She went on, "I advocate working all parts of the body twice a week. I'm striving for heavier weights. That's particu-

'We weight-trained in college in conjunction with other sports.'

— Rosemary Comire

things that I experience, I personally don't have the power to communicate. Just on a physical level it can be wonderful aerobics but it's so much more than that. It's mental as well . . . a link between the mind, body, and spirit," Comire said.

Her Sensei (teacher) is Gloria Boldizar at the Kempo Karate School for Women. She's a bit self-conscious about going into the philosophy at this early stage of her training. "It's too soon to. But this 'inner thing' comes to different people at different times. One thing — it's easier to reach if you're looking for that."

I asked if some women were there simply for self-defense. "There are as many different women as there are reasons for being at dojo (school). Some women are there for physical fitness and others for self-defense. But

mother was a speed skater and played field hockey. Comire, herself, played high school softball, field hockey, basketball, and tennis.

She attended Plymouth State, now the University of New Hampshire, where she was a Phys. Ed. major. Competitive, she concentrated on skiing. When I asked how she rated herself, she said, "Some days good. Some days bad. I held my own." She played Association Field Hockey which involved clubs from other states. Of the team, she said, "We were good," and she was enthusiastic about pointing out, "We might play two or three teams in a weekend."

Rosemary went from student to adjunct faculty and coached skiing. She was assistant coach for one year before a fateful trip

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CORNER POCKET

GENE MILLER

Off to the Woods

How do they do it, those experts? You know the type, players who so rarely miss a shot a table run is our only logical defense. Several San Francisco Pool Association players routinely give their opponent nothing more than a chance to rack the balls, and among that feared group are Colin Bradley, Ray Peterson, Kitty Stephens, and E.Z. — their combined record last season was an impressive 98-30, winning better than 75% of their games. Beyond their common ability to garner trophies, however, the four also share the desire to learn and master the game's techniques, and, further, they particularly enjoy that same desire when it grips developing players.

Those four, then, would be the ideal choice as coaches for a pool workshop — and that's how we'll have it, when Colin, Ray, Kitty, and E.Z. share their composite knowledge with their fellow league members Oct. 20 and 21 at The Woods in Guerneville.

It will be a league first: We've learned from each other informally, gradually, since joining the league, but this will be an intense brainstorming session focusing upon individual problems, seminar fashion.

The format for the workshop will closely resemble a schoolroom: We'll all be assigned the same set of problems. We'll have opponents, and we'll be playing 8 Ball, but instead of breaking the balls, each table will be arranged the same, purposely difficult. Workshop participants can consult with any or all of the coaches before every shot, but first they'll be required to explain the shot they plan to take. In this way, examining the table and planning ahead will be the primary focus.

Declaring our game plan, thus, will function as a lever, forcing our attention upon the biggest difference between those four coaches and the majority of us: The ability to position the cue ball.

There'll also be a "pet problems" session, in which the coaches' four expert opinions will be available to remedy individual cue hangups.

That's Saturday afternoon's schedule. Sunday at noon, it's a

SCOREBOARD

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES TEAM STANDINGS and PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

TC MONDAY LEAGUE Final Summer Season Standings (Week 22 of 22 - as of 9/24/84)

League Average: 714

1. Grand Central Sta.	65	23
2. EC Midtown Boys	62	26
3. Park Bowl	62	26
4. New Image	58½	29½
5. Pilsner Pick-ups	56	32
6. Body Center	53	35
7. Pendulum 1	51½	36½
8. Renegade	49½	38½
9. Twin Peaks	49	39
10. San Francisco Gym	49	39
11. Momma's Querest	48	40
12. Perfect Petals	46	42
13. Crystal Springs	46	42
14. G. Kelly Drvg Acad	41	47
15. Men's Room	38	50
16. Wmen Behind Balls	36	52
17. Doris Day Care Ctr	36	52
18. Global Travel	33½	54½
19. Amazing Six Graces	30	58
20. Team #15	25	63

High Scratch Game

Jeff Lambert (Body Center)	267
Jack Hiatt (Park Bowl)	261
Aubrey Palmer (ECMB)	257

High Scratch Series

Jeff Lambert (Body Center)	696
Aubrey Palmer (ECMB)	685
Angelo Maggio (GCS)	681

double-elimination tournament — the four coaches now transformed into targets — with cash prizes for 25% of the players, plus a trophy for the champ.

To help us have an enjoyable time of it, the staff at The Woods has offered a special rate and use of their spacious, luxurious lounge.

The weekend will be a unique

experience, and will be more fun, in more ways than anything most of us have experienced as league members. It's amusing to recall how the idea got rolling. Just like all our functions, it was the product of a casual suggestion, this time by Bill Boyles, shortly before the season began: "We oughta do something up at Russian River. You know, like a workshop, maybe?" ■

TGWEDNESDAYNBL

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

View From The Top

On the first evening of the TGWNBL Winter 84/85 Season, Oct. 3, by virtue of his magnificent 255 game, Rob Mallin of last season's winning team, the Pilsner Potlickers, once again climbed Olympus and stood alone among the gossamer clouds, his nearest rivals, John Parry and Frank Cloutier, 21 pins back. The brilliant first-night strategy so deftly actualized by Rob garnered for him not only the coveted Highest First 200+ Game Certificate, but also the First 600+ Series Certificate for his soaring 629 series. Rob's marvelous first night dual achievements have further enhanced his already conspicuous place in the glorious annals of TGWNBL history of outstanding bowling. Congratulations, Rob. It couldn't happen to a more deserving person.

Speaking of deserving, here are the first 13 recipients of the newly-designed Tavern Guild Bowling League 200+ pin.

Rob Mallin (Pilsner Potlickers)	255
John Parry (PWIL/Japantown)	234
Frank Cloutier (Pilsner #1)	234
Mal Garcia (Park Bowl)	223
Roger Pelletier (S.S. Tooth Fairies)	221
Larry Kramer (Park Bowl)	210
Tandy Belew (Cafe San Marcos)	208
Skip Christian (PWIL/Japantown)	203
Pat Conlon (Pilsner #1)	203
Randy Peterson (PWIL/Japantown)	201
Mark Platis (Grady's)	201
Dan Hartsuff (Pilsner #1)	200
Ron McKay (Pendulum Pieces)	200

600+ anyone? Go for it!

Honoring the last evening of the TG Monday League, here are a few distinguished achievements realized by its teams and members.

Highest Team Average: Eagle Creek Midtown Boys 850

Highest Team Game: Women Behind Balls 990

Highest Three Personal Averages:

Aubrey Palmer (Eagle Creek Midtown Boys)	195
Hank Givian (New Image)	185
Brad Blair (Global Travel)	181

Number of 200+ Games Bowled 245

Number of 600+ Series Bowled 23

The membership of the fantastic Tavern Guild Monday League certainly has every reason to be proud of this very handsome league profile. ■



Are you
salubriously correct?

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

Jackson Field Site of Fall Season Play

More than 50 players showed up at Christopher Field for the first week of the fall season.

Many players did not get the word as to where everyone was going to play last week and were very disappointed. If you just pickup the *Bay Area Reporter* every Thursday, you will know where the Gay Softball League plays without relying on anyone. If you are unable to find one of the newspapers, you can call 775-4037 or 753-0740 for information regarding play.

The instructional part of the fall campaign gets underway this Sunday at 1 p.m. Players

expected to help others sharpen up their hitting, base running, fielding and pitching skills are Glenn Burke, Steve McTonnell, Art Jackson, Jeff Stone, and Bob Viereck. Take advantage of this chance to help yourself and your team. This isn't for beginners only. These men are giving up their time for us, so let's let them know we are interested.

Next week, a recap of the GSL elections, which, as of this writing, look very spirited. Also, a review of the league banquet held at Mame's Palazzo, and a list of award winners that contained many surprises. ■

BOOK RACK

The Stuff of Legends

Legend: The Story of Philippa and Aurelie
by Jeannine Allard
Alyson Publications, Inc.; \$5.95, paper

by Dianne Gregory

Legends are the stuff of dreams and good story telling. Most have basis in fact, but what makes them legends rather than ordinary history is their pathos and lessons on life. They are of the oral tradition, which is part of what makes them legends — the embellishment, the adding of detail from the imagination of the teller.

Jeannine Allard has taken a French legend out of the early 19th century and added nuance and shading to the stark, simple events and people she heard about. The legend is about two women living on the coast of France who loved one another. One posed as a man, and the two were married in the village church. The one who pretended to be a man was lost at sea and the other, unable to face life alone, killed herself. The villagers erected a statue along the coast in their honor, but later the true identity of the sailor was discovered and the townspeople pushed the statue into the sea.

... her survival is a lesson for all of us. ■

Allard said she heard two versions of the story, one in Brittany and the other in Paris. The details of each version were different, one claiming there was a child involved.

It's a simply story really, but Allard has fleshed it out into a haunting tale of love and retribution. She tells the story of Philippa and Aurelie through flash forward and the eyes of Mimi, the child of Aurelie's sister that the two unofficially adopted. Mimi is the only one to live to see the tragedy of the desecration of the statue and its attending hysteria.

Allard also injects mysticism into the story through the visions and dreams of Aurelie and Mimi when they go up to the "standing stones," a group of the megaliths that dot the coast of Brittany; "left behind from some forgotten people or god." The mysticism adds just the right quality of fanciful anomaly to make the aura of legend almost palpable.

It's not a happy story, by any means. The best that can be said about the lives of these women is that Mimi survived the mental torture of seeing her dead parents and lover reviled by peo-

THURSDAYNBL

ROBERT E. JAHNIGEN

Ron's Sweeps Trax

Three teams took their four-game series from their opponents in last Thursday's action at Park Bowl.

The hottest action occurred on Lanes 17 and 18 where last week's co-leader, Ron's Records, was solidifying its hold on first place with a sweep over Trax. Roger Rigney's 630 series (including 247 and 220 games), along with Ron Squires' 214 game, powered the team to a Season High Series 2175 Scratch, and to the top of the standings by itself.

Team 3 and Team 15 also took four games from their opponents. Douglas Victor's 200 game paced his Team 15 over Trax Maniac while Glen Terrio's 579 series (including a 206 game) paced his team.

Meanwhile, Bracco Distributing, tied for first with Ron's Records, was able to only salvage a single game win over Park Bowl, which was paced by Ed Barido's 210 game. ■

R.E. Jahnigen



SF AIDS Fund president Walter Mellon (l.) gets a check from FrontRunners president Patrick Vitale.

RUNNING

BUD BUDLONG

GayRun Pays Off

A check for \$2,000 was presented to the San Francisco AIDS Fund from the proceeds of GayRun '84. More than 500 runners participated in the fifth annual event, which occurred on July 8 in Golden Gate Park.

FrontRunners president Patrick Vitale made the presenta-

tion to AIDS Fund president Walter Mellon at the Angel Island picnic for Gay sports clubs, held Sept. 9. The picnic was attended by 80 members of four Gay sports clubs: Different Spokes, San Francisco Hiking Club, San Francisco FrontRunners, and the newly formed Eastbay FrontRunners. ■

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Participating:

Paul Volberding, MD, Director, AIDS/KS Clinic, San Francisco General Hospital (Chief, Medical Oncology, San Francisco General, Assistant Professor of Medicine, UCSF)

Dennis J. McShane, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Immunology), Stanford Medical Center. President, Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR).

Dean Echenberg, MD, PhD, Director, Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Matt Coles, Attorney.

(and a few surprises!)

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MR. MARCUS

The Carnival and Pier Pressure

For the nineteenth year in a row, the California Motor Club will stage its annual carnival Sunday, Nov. 11, recognized as one of the biggest Gay events in San Francisco and the West Coast, for that matter. This year, the annual fun festival will take place in the cavernous Shed C of Pier 45 on the Embarcadero and will run from Noon until 8 p.m. The usual array of booths will prevail with the contest to name Mr. CMC Carnival. A whole slew of hot men are already contemplating entering the competition in which they name their favorite charity to be recipient of YOUR largesse. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door and available practically everywhere around town.

There's an additional function to complement the carnival this year. The night before (Sat., 10 Nov.), the men who brought you Men Behind Bars present a gigantic disco party titled PIER PRESSURE, featuring DJs Larry Cory of the End Up and Henry Winslow, direct from The Pavilion and Moon Shadow in NY for an array of music beginning at 9 p.m. until Dawn. The nice surprise of the entire weekend is that this will not be a rip-off, but the cost will be \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. No fancy big names, just music you can DANCE your ass to. In addition, shuttle buses will be running back and forth to Pier 45 from Castro Street, Folsom Street, Polk Street, and Haight Street, so you can't say you didn't go because of transportation. There's also parking space for 200 cars right on the pier. Make your plans now to attend one of San Francisco's finest traditions: The Carnival — and this year, a big disco party with Jim Cvitanich and Mark Abramson bringing you a night you will never forget, and mostly, a night and a day you can afford. See you all there?

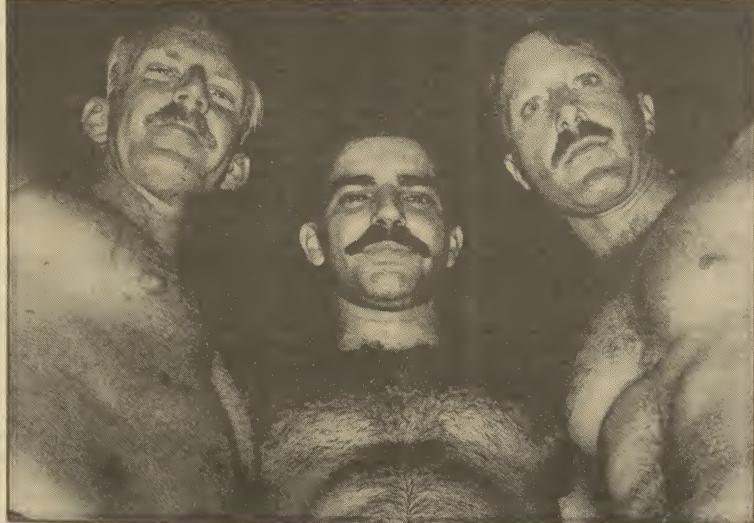


The beer chugging contest at CMC's Oktoberfest beer bust at the SF Eagle last weekend. The guy on the left won. (Photo: Rink)

★ ★ ★

Although it was very underpublicized, an event took place last Saturday afternoon South of Market that should not go unrecognized. On the corner of 12th and Howard is the SOMA Cafe, a recent arrival on the scene, reminiscent of the early days of Hamburger Mary's. This place is owned by Paul Schulte, who is an AWARE individual. Aware of the neighborhood, aware of the people in the South of Market area, and aware of the needs of the community. One can only surmise that Paul is cognizant of the ethnic make-up of South of Market, and the recent influx of Asian refugees did not escape his scrutiny. Thusly, last Saturday afternoon, from Noon to about 6 p.m., not one but three rock bands converged upon the scene in a mini-street carnival complete with beer, wine, popcorn, balloons, and the talents of the current hot rock group TRANSLATOR. It was all to raise money for the kids in the neighborhood who are getting used to the ways and mores of America. There wasn't a big crowd, but this effort to raise money for Christmas toys for the kids in the area will, hopefully, be an annual event, with more input from other groups South of Market. Paul's efforts should be

(Continued on next page)



This month's Arena Bare Chest Contest winners. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

MARCUS

(Continued from previous page)
commended, and I'm sorry you missed it, but maybe next year . . .

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MARCUS

Item under Business Opportunities (600) of the *SF Chronicle*: "Nightclub, Bar, Disco priced for immed sale. Flexible terms. The famed 'Trocadero Transfer.'" Do they mean TROCadero Transfer? I hope it isn't sold before Halloween! . . . Birthday greetings to my college chum and goombah, Frank Bellino, celebrating his 43d just last night. Remember those days in the tearooms of Santa Monica City College back in '63, honey? or Mike Jarvis? . . . Since the Germans are living it up in Munich this month with their Oktoberfest, why shouldn't we? Last Sunday afternoon at the SF Eagle, the CMC presented its annual paean to schnitzel with a three-hour beer bust complete with a beer drinking contest which was won by "The Doc." Fred Stone and his club brothers were all decked out in *lederhosen*, but the traditional oompah-pah was missing as the DJ finally realized the Flock of Seagulls DOES exist and played some New Wave music for a change. Continuing in the tradition started by a former owner, the BRIG will stage its Oktoberfest from Oct. 21 thru 25 with German beer in abundance and other German "delicacies," so don't miss it . . . If you're up at the Russian River next week, be sure to drop into the RAINBOW CATTLE CO. to help celebrate its FIFTH Anniversary with a special anniversary dinner, a \$1,000 Cash Grab, and special drawings. Jim and Bill have got the place TO-

GETHER, and this promises to be one of the biggest blow-outs yet . . . On Fri., Oct. 19, from Noon to 2 p.m., Armistead Maupin will be autographing his new book, *Babycakes*, at Bookmania, 160 California St. (at Front) as a benefit for the Shanti Project, so get on down, get your copy, and help out Shanti . . . The Watering Hole will be celebrating its anniversary Oct. 23 thru 25 with lots of surprises and goodies too. Call Bryan Todd for the details and be sure to check out Folsom's newest gin mill soon. They say the DJ there WILL play requests, contrary to the "attitude" you get in other bars . . . If you're into JAZZ, check out the free, repeat, free Pete Escovedo and his Latin jazz at Opera Plaza this Friday, Oct. 12, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 601 Van Ness Ave . . .

THE DISH JOCKEY

Overheard at the ARENA last Thursday night at the Bare Chest Contest: Dick Marcus of Marin commenting on Miles Mitchell's chest when someone said, "Miles needs guidance." Dick Marcus: "No he don't. He needs a brassiere!" No wonder Kym Whittington of CHAPS is sulking these days . . . When this dude walked into the BRIG the other night just DRIPPING with leather, chains, padlocks, red and gray hankies, and enough keys to the Kingdom, another bloke uttered: "How de *Brig-eur*" . . . Would you believe our Gay brothers are still trying to rip off their Gay brothers? Robert Pruzan-adana took his 'Bird in for some minor repairs to a supposedly reputable Gay garage and was told it would cost him \$185 and take a day and a half to do. Shopping around at a STRAIGHT garage, he got the work done for \$55 and it was

ready in TWO hours! So much for the "Buy Gay" slogan . . . Don't forget the Daddy's Boy Contest on Sunday, Oct. 21, at the SF Eagle. I guess Jake Banks is ready to give up the title and has himself become a daddy to Dean Gibson, currently on the boards at the Eagle . . . Gina Morandi came to town last weekend to show off her new cleavage (from a 21" bust to a 36") "with a little help from her Silicon friends" and got so fed up with everyone trying to "inspect" her chest, she garbed herself in swaddling leather and looked butcher than YOU KNOW WHO . . . Suzy Parker, the MAIN columnist for LA's *Compass Magazine*, called to say she has inherited more than a million dollars, and NO she will NOT marry Steve (Stella) Loignon at the ARENA . . . Speaking of the ARENA, the final Bare Chest Contest to name Mr. December in the planned 1985 calendar will take place on Thursday, Oct. 18, at 10 p.m. Be there! The calendar will be out in mid-November, with some great photography by Richard Kohart — and the rest of the photographers in town are STEAMING because Richard is doing it for gratis . . . One of the local sensation seekers will be glad to know that henceforth SHE will no longer be pointed out in print. The best way to get rid of an egotist is to IGNORE them. I wonder if the Barbary Coasters M/C know how much damage just ONE of their members has caused???

★ ★ ★

Until we meet on these pages again, remember: If you've got it, flaunt it. But if you flaunt it, expect to have it TRASHED. Be good to your pet bird and line the bottom of the cage — NOW.

Marcus



Barry (l.), the Endup's last Jockstrap Contest winner, being congratulated last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

BOOK RACK

Who Done It?

The Burton Widows
by Vicki P. McConnell
Naïad Press, Inc.; \$7.95, paper

by Dianne Gregory

Mystery novels are part of a long tradition as well as a complete genre of literature. Like science fiction, its cousin, the mystery has its aficionados and officianados, its highbrow and its lowbrow. From Nancy Drew to Agatha Christie, the whodunit has been a literary mainstay for generations.

Vicki P. McConnell, in her second book chronicling the adventures of Nyla Wade, journalist-detective, has taken Nancy Drew out of the closet, aged her 10 or 15 years, and made her a first class dyke. In this book Nyla solves the mystery of the two Lesbians murdered in the limestone castle, exposes corruption in the small Oregon town the castle dominates, and saves the castle from destruction. She also meets, woos, and wins the girl of her dreams. She makes friends and enemies along the way, but at all times remains steadfast in her belief that justice will prevail.

McConnell shows much skill as a mystery writer, the end result being the kind of book you're unable to put down until the last page is turned. She also shows more than a little Gay sensibility and political awareness, which is one of the threads that hold the book together. In the end the castle is given to the Gay Historical Society because of its historical significance as a repository for generations of Lesbians.

If you like a good mystery, and you like to read books with a Gay sensibility, this book is for you.



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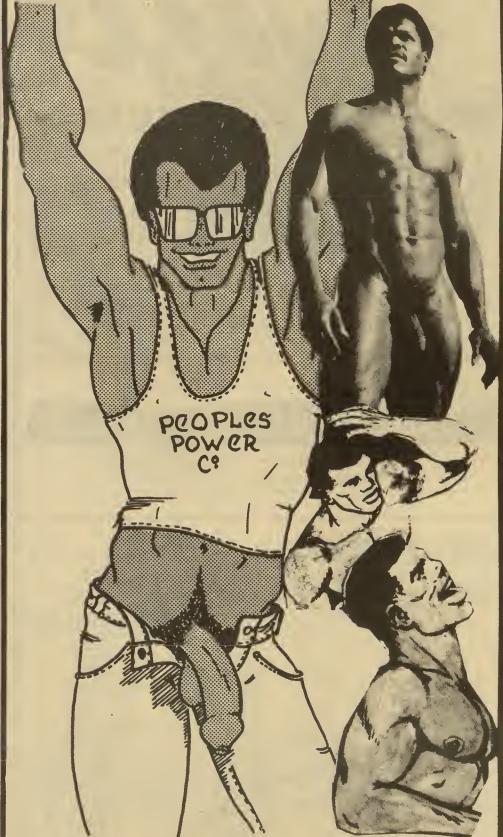
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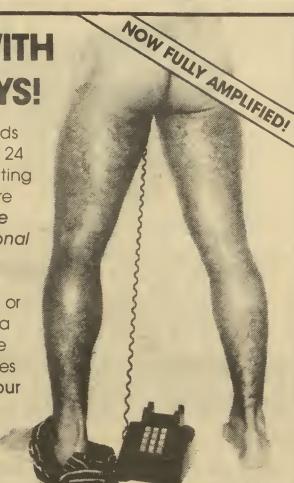
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Trax hunky bartender.

As anniversaries set the tone for last month, fundraising auctions seem to be this month's theme. Sunday, Kenneth Ann (owner Ken Smith) took to the skirts and auctioned off goods and services for the AIDS Fund at Trax. Aided by Empress Remy and Emperor Rich, Ken and the crew raised more than \$1,000 for the cause. This event was well supported by the Haight business community as shopkeepers such as those from Held Over and Video Track donated lotsa drag and

With the Transfer overloaded

and her husband of state, Michael Bowman (who has recently given up the boards for the professional life) welcome you to bring a picnic to Museum Park at Roosevelt Way and 15th Streets — you know, where all the fairies sunbathe near the rock — Sunday, Oct. 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is their official investiture, and is being produced by Miss Piggy and Jon Scott . . . so you can expect a combination of the sublime and the ridiculous. Something like a Roman orgy during a college cafeteria food fight, don't ya know.

LASHED TO THE BRUSH

Tony Derosa presented his "Streets and Alleys" at the Ambush, a body of his recent works in oil. These flat, nearly primitive frames use a lot of pastel, which brightens and lends an airy feeling to the room. The subjects are views of South of



Frank Benoit (l.), Sissy Spacek, and Parkay at the benefit auction for Trixie Trash at the Transfer last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

some hot porn, respectively.

The Village/Galleon boys were "heavily" represented by Flo in yards of silver and gold, as well as the dynamic trio Dick with Lee (seated beside one another?) and Hank. Sissy Spacek helped by displaying wares to the jammed bar. She was in charge of things like punk pink flats and lead crystal bowls. Fredericko, in his antique Navy pants (fully packed) and hat and chest (new), was in charge of showing burl clocks and porn, suitably enough.

The big prize of the day was dinner with Kenny Leetzon,

with supporters, and the dais filled with prominent auctioneers, the kids sold everything from drag of every description to a buxom bust of Empress Maria Teresa sold to Lillie for \$11. The bust was a purchase by Emp Rich for two bucks at Trax under the gun of auctioneer Remy.

Dorothy Duster, in elegant white silk quilted jacket with feathered head dress, made a perfect host with Parkay for an event that raised nearly 1500 clams for our-lady-of-the-kelter.

If you care to meet this scavenger of lost hearts, Trixie

Market streets. The most interesting is "Holiday Inn from 4th St." It uses the shadowy gloom of night's sky to form the shapes and forms, as seen from that perspective.

"Ninth and Folsom" is hanging above the barmen, and reveals the Billboard Cafe. In this canvas his use of light and dark shows his use of form best. Derosa throws a little humor in "Back from and Break," a view of the Ambush and Harrison Street from the front door of the Arena. You see Tony is an Ambush employee. He and his fel-

(Continued on next page)



Deena Jones (l.), SF's 1984 Closet Ball Queen, dances with the boys at the Endup's last Jockstrap Contest last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

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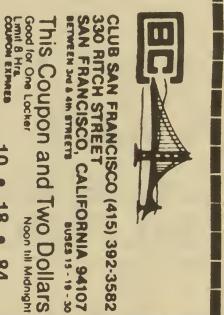
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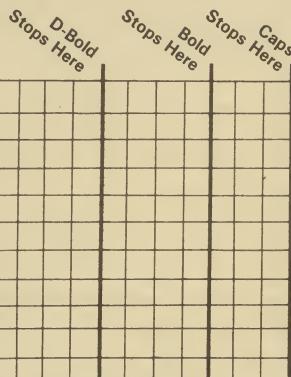
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AIDS Safe-Sex Guidelines[©]

June 1984

SAFE SEX PRACTICES

- Massage, Hugging
- Mutual Masturbation
- Social Kissing (Dry)
- Body-to-Body Rubbing (Frottage)

POSSIBLY SAFE SEX PRACTICES

- French Kissing (Wet)
- Anal Intercourse With Condom
- Sucking - Stop Before Climax
- Watersports - External Only
- (Risk Increases With Multiple Partners)

UNSAFE SEX PRACTICES

- Rimming
- Fisting
- Blood Contact
- Sharing Sex Toys
- Semen or Urine in Mouth
- Anal Intercourse Without Condom

AIDS Hotlines

- (415) 863-AIDS
- Toll-Free in N. CA: 800-FOR-AIDS
- TTY (415) 864-6606

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(415) 673-3189

Can You Pass The Safe Sex Test?

Safe Sex Protects You and Your Partner

Sex I Like To Do (Or Might Be Talked Into)

	SAFE	POSSIBLY SAFE	UNSAFE
<input type="checkbox"/> Being fucked without a condom			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Fucking without a condom			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Being fucked with a condom		□	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fucking with a condom		□	
<input type="checkbox"/> Getting sucked to climax			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Getting sucked - stopping before climax		□	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sucking to climax			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Sucking - stopping before climax	□		
<input type="checkbox"/> Masturbation/jacking off	□		
<input type="checkbox"/> Massage/hugging/dry kissing	□		
<input type="checkbox"/> Watersports in mouth			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Watersports on skin		□	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rimming/scat			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Fisting			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharing dildos and sex toys			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Dildos and sex toys - not shared	□		
<input type="checkbox"/> Body-to-body rubbing (frottage/tribadism)	□		
<input type="checkbox"/> Semen or urine in mouth or anus			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Cunnilingus		□	
<input type="checkbox"/> Contact with someone's blood			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharing needles			■

AIDS HOTLINES: (415) 863-AIDS / Toll-Free in N. CA (800) FOR-AIDS / TTY (415) 864-6606

Produced by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, June 1984.

Another Message From The San Francisco AIDS Foundation